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ONE AMAZING YEAR.

**Cheddington Scouts
Impact Report 2013**



Our Group Scout Leader

Welcome to 1st Cheddington Scout Group's annual report for 2012/13.

It's been another great year for 1st Cheddington. Our numbers have continued to grow and the second Cub Pack, opened last September, has been a great success. The Group currently has 2 Beaver Colonies, 2 Cub Packs, a Scout Troop and an Explorer Unit membership has stayed at high levels and we currently have 130 young people in the group, led by 20 adults as well as a number of young leaders. This is a growth of over 10% since this time last year.

All of our Sections continue to offer a full and varied programme of activities, based around Scouting principles, with camps still the most popular activity. All young people in the group, from the youngest 6 year old through to the eldest Explorer had the opportunity to go away at least twice in the last 12 months, giving them a great time, while learning about independence and team working. This year has also seen a continued active participation in community activities, something we hope to build upon in future years.

I hope you enjoy our report; it gives a small flavour of the great year we've had, of the fun and excitement shared by all our young members, and of the effort and dedication put in by all of the adults involved.

Ian Hale
Group Scout Leader



Your Trustees Report

It's been a great year again in Cheddington with lots to report on and share.

We were lucky enough to be able to secure a grant from Buckinghamshire Community Chest towards Archery Equipment and this has already been used to help our young people experience this hobby and give them a reason to experience the outdoors.

We were also able to purchase a number of new tents and other camping equipment for the Group to support the young people who want to go camping and learn about the world around them.

During Community Week this year, we worked with a number of partners to achieve three projects for the community; we beautified the communal garden in the Barkham Close sheltered housing, we planted planters at the entrances to the village and we cleared the railway station approach to make it a more pleasant environment for commuters. By doing these projects the young people have increased their understanding of their community and learned skills about gardening as well as finding out about social responsibility.



Your Beaver Colonies.

Cheddington Beavers have enjoyed undertaking a range of interesting activities, enabling them to try new things, have fun with other Beavers, work and play together and to develop their confidence.

Cheddington Beavers took to flight this year. In their mock up airplane, the Beavers were trained by an airline stewardess how to use the safety equipment on board. Then they put together their own 'passport' with information about places they would like to visit. This was followed by a fantastic visit to London Gliding Club where all the Beavers were able to sit in a real glider and learn about how they are flown. As a result, the Beavers learnt about people in their community and how we link to the wider world community and found out about travel.

Both colonies have enjoyed getting out of the HQ this year, but the highlights have to be a torchlight hike and walking to the top of Ivinghoe Beacon in the howling wind and rain. As a result, the Beavers developed a sense of achievement at completing 'grown up' hikes and a fantastic team camaraderie.

May saw our Beaver camp where Beavers went on a trip to Woburn Safari Park and then back for an evening under the stars. Despite the rain and the indoor 'campfire' the Beavers were thrilled to spend the night sleeping in patrol tents with their friends. This built their independence and self-confidence through being away from their parents in a safe environment, many for the first time under canvas.



Your Cub Packs.

This was an exciting year for Cubs with the opening of our second pack. Following the theme of the Jungle Book, it was a colourful start to the year spent learning about India. The Cubs immersed themselves in cooking Indian food, dressing in traditional dress and learning about Hindu festivals. Alongside this they found out about some of the issues affecting children their own age growing up in India such as poverty and the lack of clean water. Through these activities the Cubs developed a wider knowledge and understanding of the world.

In February the Cubs learnt the traditional Scouting skills of navigating and map reading. This included playing 'map symbol twister' and culminated in sixes taking turns to direct each other through the village using walkie talkies to find hidden treasure (a good Cub favourite of chocolate). This built trust between the Cubs and taught them responsibility when looking after others.

The themes for Cub camps were Army and Knights of Camelot. This saw the Cubs taking part in a number of events to build independence, confidence and develop their decision making skills, including packing their bags, erecting tents, zip wires and pot holing. Through this experience, Cubs developed their skills of working with others and building their sense of responsibility and conquering their fears.

The Wednesday Wolves visited RAF Halton which gave the Cubs the opportunity to learn about the important role the RAF and its impact of modern society. Many of the Cubs studying WWII were fascinated by the museum at the base as it brought to life their knowledge of own their local history.



Your Scout Troop.

The Scouts had an average of 20 members this past year, doing all a wide range of Scouting activities like camps and hikes, and generally having good fun.

This year, there has been an impetus on keeping fitter and eating healthier. Through supporting the Scouts with this we hope they have learned more about looking after themselves and others.

This year, many evenings were run outdoors, with the Scouts learning how to make and use different types of fire, then finding out how and what to cook on them. This is not just good fun for the Scouts but it builds confidence, responsibility and teaches them valuable life skills.

For the first time the Scouts enjoyed 2 very popular geocaching evenings; one round the village, and the other on Ivinghoe Beacon. Geocaching incorporates modern technology into our programme, exposing the Scouts to the sort of equipment they experience in their fast-moving lives. Not only do the Scouts thoroughly enjoy this but it gives them experience of the world around them and working as a team.

It all helps in improving their individual self-confidence, which is not a bad thing at all!



Your Explorer Unit.

This year, Cetendone Explorers have continued to enjoy a wide range of activities which are adventurous, challenging and rewarding.

During December they installed their annual Christmas tableaux for Cheddington adding a new feature each year. This demonstrates our commitment to the village community every year.

In the depths of winter the Explorers spent a very cold night sleeping rough to raise much needed funds for Watford New Hope Trust. Through this they discovered about the plight of the homeless and gained some understanding of people less fortunate than they are.

At Easter the Explorers spent 5 adventure filled days on the Isle of Wight undertaking everything from ghost hunting to driving powerful rage buggies. They worked together and found out about relying on one another and building teams.

In June, the Explorers embarked on a cycling weekend along with Phoenix Explorers from Leighton Buzzard. Together they set off to cover over 75 miles off road along The Ridgeway. This challenged them and gave them self reliance and working in partnership.

They have also had a film night in the woods, made an arcade games console and recently they joined over 400 other Explorers for Theme Park Camp. We continue to see Explorers achieving and progressing at the Bronze, Silver and Gold DofE awards by undertaking activities from Golf to Boxing, skills from Cooking to Photography!

We're Banking on You!

Well what a year it has been for fundraising, we must say a big thank you to everyone who has helped us to raise money this year. We have had great support from parents, leaders, committee and especially from some of our fundraising partners.

We had a wonderful Barn Dance thanks to *Folklore* who played for nothing allowing us to do our way to another £500 in a memorable evening for all.

We especially need to thank the Tring Model Railway Society for their help running a fantastic exhibition. We raised over £600 with their help and had great fun doing so.

Thanks to Charlie Storr for organising the Ferret Racing and to all those who supported us by buying Ferrets or sponsoring races. The evening raised £1,200 for Scouting in the Area.

We had a fantastic Christmas Fete with the PTA and others raising lots of money and starting the festive season in the Village. The Village Fete in July was also great working with the PTA and Church fundraising teams.

There's still opportunities to support our fundraising efforts contact Kim Key if you want a number in our lucky number draw, everyone who has a number has won a prize!.



Building our future together.

We have been progressing our work to replace our HQ building this year. As our headquarters approaches the end of its useful life, it is becoming increasingly difficult to maintain. As Rt.Hon John Bercow said when he visited us in June *"I can see that this building is no longer sufficient for the positive work that you are doing in the community"*.

To address this we have committed to undertake a feasibility study for a replacement community Scout building to serve our villages. We have commissioned an architect who is looking at producing a design and looking at the use of the land around the building.

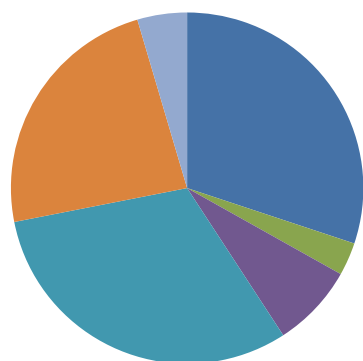
We hope to raise the funds to build a dedicated new headquarters which will serve our Scout Group and the wider village community into the future. The building and car park should be an ideal location for young people to develop.

We have to thank all those who have worked hard this year to help us maintain the buildings and the grounds. Many parents have helped out along with Santander who provided us with manpower to paint the headquarters and lay the pathway at the front.

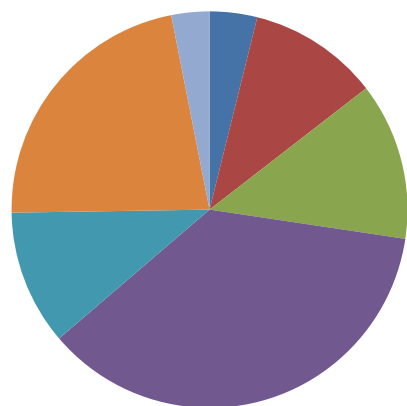
If you feel you can help with this development project either by introducing us to finance providers or by providing expertise please do let us know.

Lets talk money.

Where the money comes from...



How we spend your money...



Your money at a glance...

	This Year		Last Year	
	£	£	£	£
Total Receipts	£26,845		£17,544	
Total Payments	(£16,368)		(£13,753)	
Excess of receipts over payments		£10,477		£3,791
Unrestricted funds carried forward		£16,019		£12,228
TOTAL FUNDS		£26,496		£16,019

Note £1,100 of this years receipts are restricted.

Summary accounts.

Cheddington Scout Group

Receipts & Payments Account for the year ended 31 March 2013

	2013		2012	
	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS				
Voluntary Income				
Membership payments		9,629		8,425
Less: Membership Fees		(5,134)		(4,619)
Net income from members		4,495		3,806
Donations (including £900 restricted funds)		2,452		4,089
Gift Aid		1,458		1,146
Total Voluntary Income		8,405		9,041
Total Fundraising Income		7,526		1,715
(including (£200 restricted funds))				
Total Investment Income		972		1,552
Scouting Activities		9,942		5,236
TOTAL RECEIPTS		£26,845		£17,544
PAYMENTS				
Cost of Generating Funds		2554		304
Cost of Charitable Activities				
Electricity & Water		376		464
Insurance		523		504
Scout hut repairs		784		42
Materials & equipment		360		2,850
Cost of Activities & competition		11,412		9,081
Uniforms		169		341
Examination fee (two years)		78		145
Sundry expenses		112		22
		13,814		13,449
TOTAL PAYMENTS		£16,368		£13,753

Full reviewed accounts are available separately at www.cheddingtonscouts.org.uk

THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

Thank you to all our supporters and partners, particularly to parents and leaders who help every week, in meetings, cutting the grass or joining working parties etc...



Bowerman Building Services



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