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365 Days of Scouting.

**Cheddington Scouts
Impact Report 2014**



Our Group Scout Leader

Welcome to 1st Cheddington Scout Group's annual report for 2013/14.

This year we have continued to deliver an excellent Scouting programme to the young people of Cheddington and the surrounding villages. Although we have had a slight drop in numbers this year, we continue to operate 2 Beaver Colonies, 2 Cub Packs, a Scout Troop and an Explorer Unit with a total of 107 young people in the group, led by 20 adults as well as a number of young leaders.

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. Training is also a key part of our programme with many young people earning the top awards for their sections; however, it is not just about hard work and every meeting is also fun for the young people ensuring that Scouting remains the highlight of their week.

We have continued to receive great support from the Group executive this year, ensuring we continue to purchase new equipment for camps and activities as well as improve the headquarters.

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.

Thank You!

Ian Hale
Group Scout Leader

Your Trustees Report

It has been a busy year for the Group with the focus being on consolidation and providing a safe and attractive place for Scouting to happen in the villages.

Work has been undertaken with architects to design and plan for a new headquarters for the Group. This has included some discussions with the Parish Council and AVDC to look at the feasibility of our proposed new design.

We have also been involved in ensuring the inside of the Scout Hall is decorated and equipment is serviceable. We have purchased new camping equipment, new games equipment and have invested in the current building with the aim that it will see us through until sufficient funds have been generated to build a new.

Our work has been recognised by the High Sherriff of Buckinghamshire who has presented us with an award to recognise our impact on the community in the villages.

We have done considerable work to ensure we are financially sound and put into place procedures to ensure we are operating effectively as a charity.

Looking forward our plans to raise the money for our new HQ are about to take off in earnest and you can really help. Would you like to raise funds or do you have access to grants? Please let us know.

Your Beaver Colonies

It's been another busy year at Beavers.

We said goodbye to two of the Beavers leaders as Naomi & Pete moved to Cubs. Nicola & Jeanette are now doing a great job running Endeavour. In Discovery, Sally has joined us as a uniformed leader, Jo is about to come back to Beavers, and Lindsay is moving to Cubs. We are very grateful for the dedication of all the adults who help in Beavers, they make such an impact on these young lives.

Our young leaders have again been brilliant. Emily Stevens has been a great help in Endeavour, and has organised and run sessions for both colonies. We are also extremely grateful to our other young leaders, George Blackburne, Jack Ainsworth, Georgia Collins and Ben Jackson. Young leaders gain life skills and leadership skills, whilst being wonderful role-models to our Beavers.

The most notable events of the year were: a trip to Tesco's in Leighton Buzzard to see behind the scenes, a trip to the pantomime at the Pendley Court Theatre to see Jack and the Beanstalk and a visit from the Reptile Roadshow, where we all got some hands-on experience with snakes, lizards, millipedes, cockroaches (yuk!), chinchillas and even an aged tortoise. We had a night hike at Ashridge, a trip to Tring Fire Station and a Parent-Beaver camp at Phasels Wood. All of these helping our Beavers to gain great experiences whilst having loads of fun.

And lots of badges have been earned, recognising and rewarding the Beavers participation and achievements and building their confidence!



Your Cub Packs

We have had another exciting year in Cubs, taking part in a wide range of activities. We had a joint session with a Sikh Cub Pack and visited the Gudwar in Southall where the Cubs learned about the Sikh faith and made new friends. A highlight was 4 of our Cubs being invested in the temple and sharing a meal at the end with our new friends. Through activities such as this we hope our Cubs have a better understanding of the world and other people in it.

Cubs have also been out and about in our local area taking part in a number of hikes, the favourite being our 'Chip Shop' hike around Tring Park, mini-beast hunts, pond dipping and creating pastel artwork at the Church. These sessions help our children develop an appreciation of the world they live in. The Cubs creative talents have also been evident in our street dance session, camp fire skits, DIY sessions and some fabulous creations involving lots and lots of paint, encouraging them to use their imagination and develop creative skills.

Camping has always been popular. We have been den building, tracking, crate stacking, backwoods cooking, pioneering as well as having a go at archery and shooting. At our very own Hogwarts Camp we made our own wizards outfits, had our very own potions class and learned how to perform magic tricks. The Cubs enjoyed making their own version of Bertie Botts every flavour jelly beans—particularly feeding the adults the hottest chilli beans going! As well as being great fun, camps like these help develop leadership skills, problem solving and independence which we hope will help the Cubs throughout their adult lives.

Your Scout Troop

The Scout Section had an average of around 20 youngsters this year, enjoying lots of varied Scouting activities.

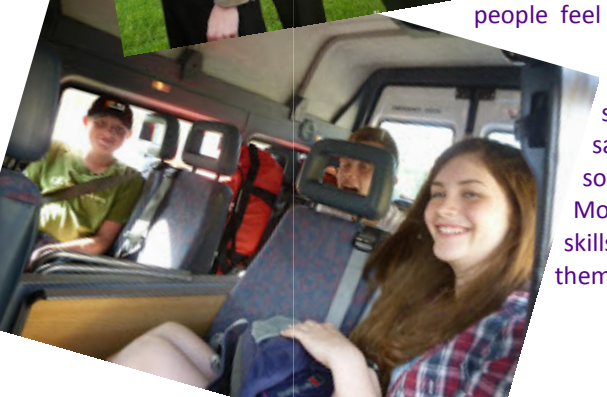
Emphasis this year was on fitness, which was just as well, as we had several cooking evenings! These life skills prepare the young people for their future life and help build their independence as citizens.

We undertook a few new programme ideas, to help the Scouts fit into the community as they get older. We had a plumbing and electricity workshop, and also a "Sleep-Rough" night in the graveyard at St Giles' Church, to see what it is like to have no home for the night. The Scouts raised over £300 for a local homeless charity, whilst gaining a better appreciation of other people's issues.

The Scouts also tried acting, by doing a show in groups, plus ran their ever-favourite, "Showtime", where they sing, act, dance or tell jokes! This builds self-confidence in the Scouts as well encouraging any budding Simon Cowells!

The programme is extremely varied, to ensure primarily the Scouts have fun, but with the idea being they discover more about themselves, the environment around them - and how they fit in. They then develop their own sense of knowledge, confidence and responsibility in how they approach things - especially as part of a team.

Of course there were the usual hikes, camps and outdoor games - just what young people enjoy!



Your Explorer Unit

The past year has seen a number of milestones for Cetendone Explorers. As we approach our 5th birthday we have seen some of the unit complete a full 4, some have moved on to Network and one past member has returned to the unit as a leader having completing a degree at university.

In winter 2013 we again entered the excellent Grimsdyke Hike with two groups of Explorers using this as their Duke of Edinburgh Award practice expedition before completing their qualifying expedition in early spring. The Unit also installed their popular annual Christmas display for Cheddington village when they experienced the "kidnapping" of the snowman. He was returned safely and will be present in the larger display already planned for 2014. This independence and community involvement has shown as the Explorers have grown throughout the year.

Our Unit has been involved with other Explorers from around the country, travelling to the Isle of Wight for the annual "IOW Revolution" camp where they threw themselves into every activity and challenge, impressing the organisers so much that they invented a new award just for Cetendone: "Greatest Contribution to Revolution 2014".

A hardy squad were present at the final ever Sun Run camp in the Malvern Hills which, after over 20 years, has come to an end. We had to be hardy to survive as after the 13 mile hike, the party started and the final live act came on stage at 3am! Joining in with other Explorers is fun and it helps our young people feel part of a wider community.

Other activities this year have included learning real survival skills and attending a winter survival camp, coppicing, sailing, sausage making, outdoor cinema, mask making, officiating a soapbox race at Kop Hill and enjoying the always popular Monopoly day in central London. All of these helping build their skills of leadership, problem solving and team-work and preparing them for their future endeavours.

Your Trustees

Your trustees work through the year to ensure that the Group is run with due prudence, compliance and care, they accept responsibility for the operation of our charity and throughout they act with integrity.

This year the trustees have ensured the operation of the charity, ensured the building and equipment is maintained, raised funds, undertaken financial administration, ensured we are insured, looked after the recruitment of adults and ensured a healthy and safe environment.

The trustees for 2013-2014 were:

- Dr Simon Aulton (Chairman)
- Nicola Lacey (Secretary)
- James Lowe (Treasurer)
- Ian Hale (Group Scout Leader)

Elected members:

- Dr Alison Bell
- Tracy Ells
- Kim Key
- Jon Knight

Nominated members:

- John Boyes
- Rosie Storrar
- Ben Storrar

Young people nominated representatives

- Charley Stevens
- Angus Growanlock

A sincere thank you to all of the trustees for their hard work this year.



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 Sir Stuart Hampson, High Sheriff said when he visited us *"The work you do here is wonderful, you need a home that reflects that"*.

To address this we have undertaken a feasibility study for a replacement community Scout building to serve our villages. We have commissioned an architect who has created a design and looking at the use of the land around the building. This is with AVDC to see what they think of our plans.

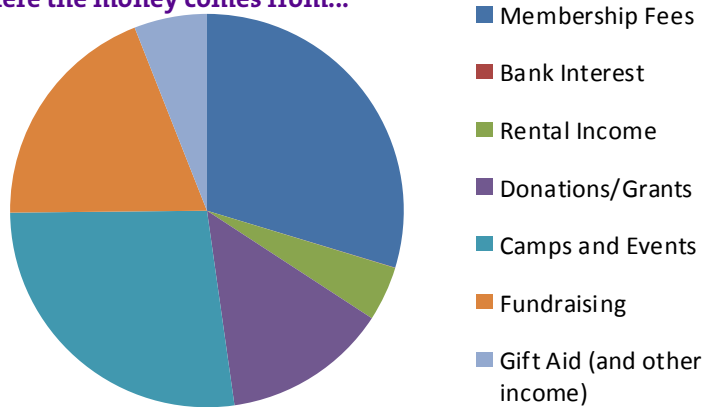
We hope to raise the funds to build a dedicated new headquarters which will serve our Scout Group and the wider village community into the future. The building and car park should be an ideal location for young people to develop.

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.

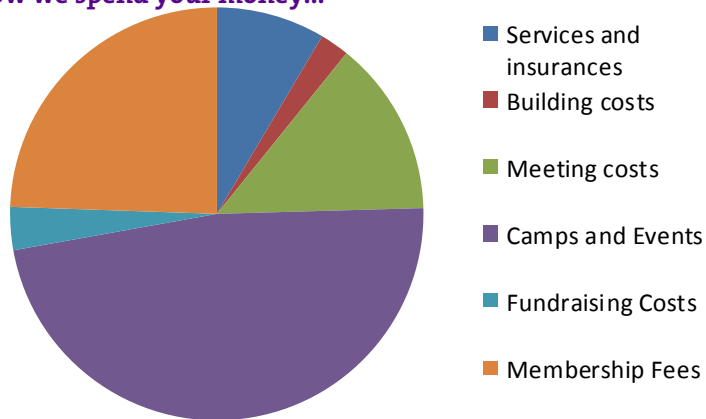
If you feel you can help with this development project either by introducing us to finance providers or by providing expertise please do let us know.

Lets talk money

Where the money comes from...



How we spend your money...



Your money at a glance...

	This Year		Last Year	
	£	£	£	£
Total Receipts	£23,041		£26,845	
Total Payments	(£14,027)		(£16,368)	
Excess of receipts over payments		£9,014		£10,477
Unrestricted funds carried forward		£26,496		£16,019
TOTAL FUNDS		£35,510		£26,496

Summary accounts

Cheddington Scout Group

Receipts & Payments Account for the year ended 31 March 2014

	2014		2013	
	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS				
Voluntary Income				
Membership payments		11,377		9,629
Less: Membership Fees		(4,539)		(5,134)
Net income from members		6,838		4,495
Donations (including £900 restricted funds)		3,119		2,452
Gift Aid		1,376		1,458
Total Voluntary Income		11,333		8,405
Total Fundraising Income		4,425		7,562
Total Investment Income		1,045		972
Scouting Activities		6,238		9,942
TOTAL RECEIPTS		£23,041		£26,845
PAYMENTS				
Cost of Generating Funds		627		2554
Cost of Charitable Activities				
Electricity & Water		539		376
Insurance		570		523
Scout hut repairs		426		784
Materials & equipment		2,552		360
Cost of Activities & competition		8,841		11,412
Uniforms		50		169
Examination fee (two years)		90		78
Sundry and administrative expenses		332		112
		13,400		13,814
TOTAL PAYMENTS		£14,027		£16,368

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...



This report is dedicated to the memory of Jan Doole, our Assistant Scout Leader who was tragically killed while climbing in the Cairngorms on September 2nd 2014. Jan had been a leader at 1st Cheddington since 1996.

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