



1st Cheddington Scout Group

Annual Report 2008-2009

1st Cheddington Scout Group

Scout Headquarters, Mentmore Crossroads, Cheddington, Buckinghamshire

Patron HM The Queen **President** HRH The Duke of Kent **Founder** Robert Baden-Powell OM **Chief Scout** Bear Grylls

1st Cheddington Scout Group Council

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

to be held on Tuesday 13th October 2009 at 8 p.m.
at Scout Headquarters, Station Road.

AGENDA

1. Welcome by the Group Chairman.
2. Apologies for absence.
3. Minutes of 2008 Annual General Meeting and Matters Arising.
4. Approval of Annual Report.
5. Approval of Accounts.
6. Approval of GSL's nomination of Group Chairman.
7. Election of Group Treasurer.
8. Election of Group Secretary.
9. Election of Group Executive.
10. A. O. B.

1ST CHEDDINGTON SCOUT GROUP COUNCILMINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON 20th July 2008 SCOUT HEADQUARTERS

Parents and children were invited to a BBQ / A.G.M. This was a successful afternoon with 22 parents in attendance.

Apologies: none

Matters arising: none

Chairman's Welcome:

The Chairman opened the Meeting by welcoming parents, David Tichener and David Hammond.

The Annual Report was approved.

Group Scout Leader's Report:

G.S.L. Ian Hale thanked everybody for attending.

This is the centenary year for Scouting and has been extremely busy with many activities including a Scout camp and a sailing weekend.

Weekly meetings were well attended with steady numbers (around 80) and, for the first time, girls are present in all sections of the Group.

Thanks was given to all Leaders who have given up so much time in preparation and planning for their Meetings and to the Committee for their support.

With regards to the future, there will be a family camp in Oct. with over 100 parents and children attending.

Ian also announced that a new Group Website has been formed.

Finally thanks were given to the Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts who make Scouting worthwhile.

Treasurer's Report:

The Accounts for 2007-8 were presented and approved by the meeting.

Appointment of Officers:

The meeting approved Howard Boddy as Chairman, Jill Griffin as Secretary and Julia Robinson as Treasurer for the next 12 months.

Presentations by G.S.L.

Beaver Individual Achievement Award presented to Harry Gutsell

Most Entertaining Beaver Award presented to Archie Kehoe

Beaver Joining-In Award presented to William List

Thanks were also given to Arthur Giltrow for being helpful.

Most Entertaining Cub Award given to Alfie Ward

Cub Individual Achievement Award given to Reid Davis

Cub Joining-In Award given to William Giltrow.

A.O.B.

The Meeting was concluded by the chairman.

Chairman's Report

Welcome to 1st Cheddington Scout Group's annual report for 2008/9.

Young people have many options for spending their spare time. It is a tribute to the dedication and enthusiasm of our Leaders that many of the young people of Cheddington choose Scouting as a regular activity – for both fun and entertainment, and along the way, acquire some essential life and social skills.

The reports from the various sections later in this report can only give you a flavour of the many and varied activities that our young people have been able to experience in the last year. These show that Scouting has as much relevance today as it ever had, and continues to prove as popular.

My particular thanks and appreciation, therefore, go to all our Leaders, who put in countless hours of effort, and incredible commitment to ensure that everything goes according to plan. I am also very grateful to our other Committee members and those parents who are willing to turn out on the day, or night, or weekend if an additional pair of hands is needed! Whether it is cutting the grass, helping with camps or fundraising, additional help is much appreciated.

On that note, if there are any parents who are willing to inject some new blood into our committee, please make yourselves known to us – it really is only a couple of evenings a year of meetings plus one or two fundraising events, so not too much of a commitment (and the more people that come forward, the easier for everyone concerned!)

With the enthusiasm of our Leaders and young members, Scouting in Cheddington is likely to have another successful year ahead, and we look forward to your continuing support.

Howard Boddy
Group Chairman

Group Scout Leader's Report

It has been another great year for 1st Cheddington Scout Group but it has also been a year of change.

As described in the individual reports, all of the Sections continue to enjoy a full and varied programme of activities. Camps are particularly popular with all of our sections. As well as the camps, the sections have enjoyed many different events and competitions and not forgetting the all important weekly meetings which provide the core of the activities. Our two parades, Remembrance Day in November and St. George's Day in April, were also very well attended with everybody looking extremely smart and well behaved; a real credit to Cheddington.

Our numbers continue to grow with a further increase this year from 79 to 83. All of our sections are now full with waiting lists, even the Scout Troop which has traditionally had more room than the younger sections, now that we have been actively addressing the transition from Cubs to Scouts. All sections have both boys and girls, although this is still mainly boys as most girls attend the local rainbows, brownies and guides.

Without a doubt, our greatest event of the year was our first ever family camp in October at Thriftwood in Essex. Despite the awful weather on the Sunday, the camp was a great success with almost eighty parents, section members, brothers and sisters attending. Everybody took part in a wide variety of activities including canoeing, archery, shooting, orienteering and climbing. We even managed to have a good time in the pouring rain on the Sunday morning. We are planning a similar event next year but, due to popular demand, will be running it in the summer rather than autumn!

The last year has seen several changes in our leader team. After many years of dedicated work, Tracey and Sheila decided to step down from the Beaver Colony. We said goodbye to both of them with a party and presentations at the end of March. We were extremely grateful that Lindsay

Parkinson has offered to come forward to take on the colony and has quickly settled in, helped by a great team of parents who are willing to stay each week and lend a hand (and even take on some of the organising beforehand). The cub leader team has remained constant with Dave and Hayden continuing to run the pack, assisted by Patrick, an Explorer Scout who lives in the village. Scouts has also seen some changes, particularly with Jan being away all of this year on her round the world trip. We therefore welcomed Sarah who took on a warranted position plus Dee and Maurice who are helping out at many meetings on a regular basis. Jan will be back home from the summer of 2009 and we look forward to her helping once again. We also have two other young helpers with Fred Parkinson offering to help at Beavers and Iain Wainwright helping at the Scout Troop.

Next year will see the opening of our new Explorer Unit which will be a fantastic change for the Group (the previous venture unit closed in 2001).

I would like to give a sincere thanks to everybody who has helped this year in making Scouting in Cheddington what it is, especially to all of our dedicated leaders, old and new, who turn out every week and provide such a fantastic and imaginative programme. Although we have fewer young helpers currently than previous years, they continue to provide an essential part of our leader team and we are hoping to see more of these once the Explorer Unit starts. Thanks are also due to Howard and the Group Executive for their time and support in keeping the Group going. Scouting is an active organisation, without all of these people working together and giving up so much of their precious time every week of the year, none of the sections would even get off the ground. This year, we have become even more reliant on parental support in all the sections to provide that extra hand or two at weekly meetings and outings and so a big thank you is due to all of these.

Finally, I would also like to thank all of the young people of Cheddington, to the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts who come along to the meetings and activities and thus make all this effort so worthwhile.

Ian Hale
Group Scout Leader

Beavers

The Beaver section has a total of 21 boys and 1 girl, slightly below the maximum of 24 to allow numbers at Cubs to be gradually brought down to a more manageable level. Attendance is excellent.

Sadly, at Easter, Tracey Mailes stood down as Beaver Scout Leader, after 5 years of dedicated service, and Sheila Currell also stood down as Assistant Beaver Scout Leader, having together run a very successful and popular section. Their time at Beavers was celebrated by a party, with many of the Cubs who had been through Beavers attending, with a show from Colonel Custard, and with a presentation from Dave Tichener. Jayne Lennard also attended and awarded some of the Beavers their Bronze Award. Many thanks to Tracey and Sheila for all their hard work and creating such a well-run group!

Prior to this, there were many activities and trips, including a trip to a pantomime and a September sleepover with a visit to Whipsnade Zoo. The Beavers have continued to work towards a number of badges and have enjoyed a very varied program.

I took over from Tracey, and Ian Hale is covering the role of Assistant Beaver Leader, which is still to be filled. Greatly assisted by Ian, I have gradually settled into the role and everyone seems to be thoroughly enjoying the busy, action packed sessions.

A number of parents are happy to help on a regular basis, and are an enormous help.

Lindsay Parkinson
Beaver Scout Leader

Cubs

The cub section continues strongly and we continue to have a waiting list.

The highlight of the last year was our summer camp at Phasels Wood. We took 25 cubs and did climbing, crate stacking, zip wire, hike, shooting and archery. Unfortunately, it rained so hard on Saturday evening that we had to go home but they all came back on Sunday.

We also had our regular New Forest camp for the elder cubs. This year we took a selected 7 cubs for cycling, swimming and walking. We had great weather and even managed a visit to the Isle of Wight.

Another popular activity has been the hikes on pack nights of which we had two; Ivinghoe along the Ridgeway and back past the windmill to Ivinghoe lawn and Edlesborough church to Ivinghoe lawn. Many thanks to the parents for helping on these.

Our regular Christmas post was a success again and we will be doing it again this year.

We are always grateful of help, so if you can assist us by cutting the grass or have an interesting job you could talk to us about or an idea for a visit we could do then please feel free to talk to us.

Hayden David/Dave Fisher
Cub Scout Leaders

Scouts

The Scout Section had an average of 24 boys and girls. Due to a shortage of leaders, our Group Scout Leader Ian Hale kindly helped Keith out for over a year, with planning and running troop nights and camps. Sarah Hale volunteered to go into uniform as Assistant Scout Leader, and Jan Doole has now returned from her world-trip. Dee Wallace and Maurice Flanders are our regular parent helpers.

As always, the scouts have had an action-packed year, with games, hikes, swimming, a "Survival" evening, campfires, cooking, a chocolate night, joint events with Ivinghoe and Pitstone troop and all the traditional Scouting activities and challenges. We visited the RAF Museum Hendon, and went dragon-boat racing! Plus our camps - at our own hut, The Quarries in MK, Phasels Wood and Lees Wood in Herts, and also a Family camp.

An extremely full and successful year for everyone!

Keith Malcolm
Scout Leader

Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31 March 2009

Overview

The accounts are prepared on the receipts and payments basis in accordance with the Scout Association and Charity Commission guidelines.

This has been a break even year for CSG financially with a small surplus transferred to reserves of £363 (2008: £1,513) after capital spend of £953 (2008: £910) and Aylesbury Vale District Scout Group capitation charges of £3258 (2008: £3,023). CSG has retained bank and petty cash balances totalling £8,009 (2008: £7,645) at the year end.

Activities such as camps and trips were paid for out of subscription income and additional activity charges. Investment income, fundraising and donations have covered establishment costs and equipment purchases with a small surplus remaining as noted above.

Subscription income and activities

Subscription income has increased slightly to £6,761 (2008: £6,095) due a £5 increase in subscription charges to £30 per head per term in the period.

Activities have been funded by subscriptions and additional activity charges. This is a pleasing outcome as this year includes significant additional activities such as The Family Camp and Discovery Sailing Project as well as at least one camp for each of the sections.

Investment income

Investment income comprised rental of the scout hut to the Tring and District Model Railway Club (TDMRC) and Brownies £957 (2008; £1,268) and interest on bank deposits of £73 (2008: £159).

The income from TDMRC rental income has dropped from £85 to £20 per month as TDMRC has moved its operation to other premises whilst maintaining storage on the CSG site. The Brownies have now ceased to rent the hut.

This reduction in income has been partly compensated for by one off hires (£230). However, more effort will be required to raise funds over the forthcoming year.

Donations and Fundraising

CSG received donations of £820 in the year. £300 was received from Aylesbury Vale District Scout Group to spend on additional equipment and £520 from the former Cheddington Venture Scout Group.

CSG has raised additional funds through fundraising contributing a net £526 (2008: £1,497) mainly from Bonfire Night food stands and Christmas post. The fundraising income and expenditure includes £647 raised and paid over to Cancer Research in memory of Karen Boddy, the Chairman's late wife.

Expenditure

Establishment expenses, including insurance, have dropped to £738 (2008: £964) due to timing of electricity bills compared to the prior year.

Expenditure on equipment

CSG has used income to fund the purchase of new cookers, tables, tent, water containers and sundry smaller items totalling £953 (2008:£910) of which £300 was funded by a donation from District funds. All of these have replaced or upgraded existing equipment.

Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2009**DRAFT SUBJECT TO REVIEW**

	Year to 31st March 2009	Previous Year
	£	£
RECEIPTS		
Membership Subscriptions	6761.25	6095
Bank Interest	73.42	159
Rental Income	957.00	1268
Donations/Grants	820.29	0
Activities	5195.11	2784
Fundraising	1282.37	1698
Sundry Income including Gift Aid rebate	0.00	268
Total Receipts for the Year	15089.44	12272
PAYMENTS		
Premises		
Water	192.55	262
Light & Heat	50.20	237
Insurance	495.41	465
Repairs & Renewals	0.00	0
Section Activities	8737.74	5660
Fund Raising Expenses	756.23	202
Capitation	3257.75	3023
Purchase of Equipment	953.28	910
Purchase of leader's Uniform	0.00	0
Sundry	282.79	0
Total Payments for the Year	14725.95	10759
Excess of Receipts over Payments	363.49	1513
BALANCE SHEET - BANK SUMMARY		
Balances b/f		
Current Acc	2188.44	702
Reserve Acc	4389.98	5231
Petty cash	1067.01	199
	7645.43	6132
Excess of Receipts over Payments	363.49	1513
	8008.92	7645
Represented by:		
Current Acc	2789.76	2188
Reserve Acc	4463.40	4390
Petty cash	755.76	1067
	8008.92	7645