



1st Cheddington Scout Group

Annual Report 2009-2010

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 SCOUTS PRESENT
A FUND RAISING**

FERRET RACING EVENING

☆ **FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY** ☆



SAT 4th. DEC. 2010

7 - 11

**CHEDDINGTON VILLAGE
HALL**

SUPPER INCLUDED

LICENSED BAR

☆ **SPONSOR A FERRET** ☆

FOR TICKETS CONTACT: 01296 660872

£10.00 PER ADULT

£6.00 PER CHILD (14 and under)

**PROCEEDS TO 1st. CHEDDINGTON SCOUT GROUP FOR
ESSENTIAL EQUIPMENT**



1st Cheddington Scout Group Council

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

to be held on Tuesday 5th October 2010 at 7.30 p.m.
at Scout Headquarters, Station Road.

Agenda

1. Welcome by the Group Chairman.
2. Apologies for absence.
3. Minutes of 2009 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.

Chairman's Report

Welcome to 1st Cheddington Scout Group's annual report for 2009/10.

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. The successful inauguration of an Explorer Scout unit in Cheddington this year is further proof of the vital role that Scouting can play in young people's lives.

We are very lucky in Cheddington to have some very dedicated Leaders and Committee members – witnessed by the awards being made in recognition of their service here today – but my thanks and appreciation 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

Minutes of 2009 Annual General Meeting

1ST CHEDDINGTON SCOUT GROUP COUNCIL

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD ON 23rd OCTOBER 2009 SCOUT HEADQUARTERS

Apologies for absence:

Keith Malcolm (Scout Leader), Lindsay Parkinson (Beaver Leader),
Julia Robinson (Treasurer), Jacqui and Mark Butler, Nikki Reeve.

Chairman's Welcome:

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

Howard noted the group had won the Endeavour Trophy: this was awarded to the Group by the District Commissioner. It was last won for 3 consecutive years in the nineties.

The 2008 Minutes were accepted by the meeting following proposal by Dave Fisher.

Matters arising: None.

Approval of Annual Report

Ian Hale introduced the annual report describing a very successful year for the group. All sections are full with an extensive waiting list and girls in all sections. The new explorers

section is now “up and running” with 11 attending regularly. Thanks to 4 new leaders there is now a fantastic program of activities planned.

Lindsay Parkinson is now the new Beaver Leader, replacing Tracey and Shelia. Other new regular helpers are Maurice Flanders and Dee Wallace as well as Jan Doole returning from her year off.

The highlight of the year was the Family Camp with 100 in attendance. As it was so successful, it is hoped to repeat this next year but in a warmer part of the year.

Thanks were given to the Committee and to parents and young people who help run meetings and attend work parties.

As to funds, equipment is needed for camping and the Hut needs an ongoing renovation scheme with no “quick fixes”.

The Annual Report was approved by the meeting.

Treasurers report.

The accounts have been audited and passed. (23.10.09)

The loss of rental income from the railway club and Brownies has been offset by grants and capitation. Fundraising activity is now limited to the Bonfire night BBQ and the Scout's Xmas post service.

The accounts were accepted by the meeting following proposal by Sarah Hale.

Appointment of Officers:

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

Kim Key offered to join the Executive Committee.

A.O.B.

D. Tichener addressed the meeting, pleased that the Group has gone from strength to strength and the GSL was congratulated for his input in improving the Group.

The Service Award for 10 years service was awarded to Maurice Flanders, Howard Boddy and Jill Griffin.

Dave Hammond thanked the Committee for supporting the Group but felt it would benefit from a parent from each section.

Thanks were given to the Cubs and Scouts who helped with refreshments.

The chairman closed the Meeting by thanking all who attended.

Awards 2009/10

Bronze Chief Scout Award

Alex Brown
Matthew Buckle
Daniel Holliday
Harry Saxon
Matthew Underhill
Jacob-Winter Brown

Chief Scout Commendation

Howard Boddy
Jan Doole
Jill Griffin
Keith Malcolm

Medal of Merit

Sarah Hale

Group Scout Leader's Report

It has been another great year for 1st Cheddington Scout Group.

As described in the individual reports, all of the Sections continue to enjoy a full and varied programme of activities with camps still the most popular activity; in total our members and leaders have spent around 450 nights away this year. 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. The biggest change this year was the opening of our new Explorer Unit, Cetendone Explorers, which is now running at 24 members, a fantastic achievement in twelve months.

We were very pleased to win the District Endeavour Trophy for the second year running. This is awarded to the group who have performed most consistently throughout the year including attendance and success at District activities and competitions. This is a great indication on how well the group continues to do. On the subject of Awards, I would also like to add my congratulations to Keith Malcolm, Jan Doole, Howard Boddy and Jill Griffin on the award for the Chief Scout Commendation and to Sarah Hale for the award of the Medal of Merit and to the six Beavers for the Bronze Award.

Our numbers continue to grow with a further increase this year from 83 to 98, thanks mainly to the Explorer Unit, as the younger sections have deliberately limited numbers to make meetings more manageable. Accordingly, our waiting lists have, unfortunately, continued to grow. This is an issue we need to tackle urgently as currently we have 15 young people who would like to do scouting but cannot due to lack of space. All sections have both boys and girls, although this is still mainly boys as most girls attend the local rainbows, brownies and guides.

Our biggest event this year was our second Family Camp, held in July at Well End, Hertfordshire. The weather was much better this year than last and all 75 parents and children had a fantastic time in a wide variety of activities including archery, shooting, camp cooking and climbing. This was so popular that we are likely to make it an annual event – so watch out next year.

The last year has been a consistent one in regards to leaders with no major changes. Explorers got off to a great start with four new leaders coming forward last September, and the Scouts were pleased to have Jan back from her world tour. Although eleven is a fantastic number of leaders for a scout group, we can't rest on our laurels as the Beavers are still looking for one or two more adults to help Lindsay who is on her own, and the cub section has now started looking for new leaders following Dave and Hayden's decision to step down after eight years.

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 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 now the Explorer Unit is up and running. 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. We continue to be 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 in the Group, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers 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 currently (September 2010) has 25 Beavers, consisting of 23 boys and 1 girl. Attendance continues to be excellent.

The position of Assistant Beaver Leader is still vacant, and Ian Hale is doing a superb job of covering the role. Four of the mums and one of the Explorers help regularly, and we have recently had 3 teenagers (from Scouts & Guides) volunteer to help too.

During the last year, 2 Beavers have been awarded their Chief Scouts Bronze Award, and many of the sessions are aimed at earning badges. Sessions are always very busy, and we made the most of the good weather last term to play games and do lots of messy activities outside. In June we had a trip to Woburn Safari Park, followed by the Beaver sleepover, with a camp fire and lots of songs.

Lindsay Parkinson
Beaver Scout Leader

Cubs

The last year has been another great one for the Cub section.

Our numbers reached 30, which was challenging, but are now back to 24 which is good as it allows us to do more interesting things both inside and outside. Unfortunately we have just lost our Young Helper, Patrick. He started with us as part of his Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award and left us while working towards his gold. He has moved away to Brighton where through good A level grades has secured a place to study Chemistry.

At the end of our summer term we presented some awards to recognize individual effort by some Cubs and our most frequent parent helper. Parent help is a vital element in allowing us to deliver a varied and interesting program to the Cubs and it can't be too bad as we have a few regular helpers who must enjoy it as they frequently participate in the activities we are running.

We enjoyed a great camp at Longridge this year where we took 20 Cubs and enjoyed two of the best night's sleep we can remember having on any camp. The weather was kind and we made the most of the riverside setting on the banks of the Thames with a variety of water born activities and a large scale water fight to round off the camp.

We have tried to maintain a varied program at our weekly pack nights, we have visited the climbing wall at Green Park, taken the cubs swimming and attended the district swimming gala, held a ready steady cook night, decorated and launched paper hot air balloons, created decorated pint glasses for fathers day and attended the District Quiz.

We also hosted, and more importantly won the District six-a-side football which we held at Brookmead school.

We are looking forward to a busy term which will include us taking a hand picked group of Cubs to Fordingbridge. We have done this for the past 6 years, we hire the local scout hut for a base from which we plan to travel to the Isle of Wight and do some walking and exploring, we also hope to explore some of the new forest and meet some of the reptiles and snakes which live in the forest.

Cubs is great fun, for us as leaders and hopefully for the Boys and Girls who attend.

Hayden David/Dave Fisher
Cub Scout Leaders

Scouts

The Scout section had up to 30 scouts at any one time this last year! We have had the usual hikes (including around Chequers with night-vision!), cooking, swimming, 1st Aid, bowling, fitness and assault course challenges, a scavenger hunt, cycling, a special Astronomy evening, plus, of course, huge numbers of games! We ran 8 various camps including an Expedition Hike, and a film-sleepover in the hut.

A very successful, busy and happy year for all our scouts.

Keith Malcolm
Scout Leader

Cetendone Explorers

It's been a terrific first year for Cetendone Explorers, starting with a group of eleven eager young people at the inception of the unit in September 2009, and by July 2010 the unit had grown to twenty two Explorers. We were also blessed with four leaders from the start, plus the endless energy, wisdom and support from Cheddington Group Scout Leader, Ian Hale. Dave Tichener equally supported main events and the county training team have been superb in getting leaders up to speed.

We measure success in so many ways, not least by the levels of noise and fun on Monday evenings when the unit meets. This was not diminished by the dark nights and especially cold winter, with only one evening being abandoned due to snow and ice! On a few occasions we made do with frozen water pipes and no tea!

Perhaps for most the notable events during the year were a 'camp' in Hellfire caves, participation at the St Albans sleepout raising over £1700 for homeless people and Watford New Hope Trust, running the firework display for Beavers, the creation of an illuminated Christmas display for Cheddington village liaising with the parish counsellors, several hike's including the Southern 50, St George's day parade, spring and summer camps, Danemead and Snowdon with nine Explorers climbing Snowdon in atrocious conditions and fund raising at the Cheddington summer fete for the church and the unit itself. Investitures took place in unusual locations including the grounds of the West Wycombe mausoleum and church at night above West Wycombe, in the grounds built by Sir Francis Dashwood, better known perhaps as the leader of the infamous Hellfire club. As a general rule the unit planned alternate weeks in and out of the hut and attempted to create as balanced a programme as possible. The programme was planned and driven by the Explorers themselves and included many varied activities such as shooting, archery, tobogganing, ice skating, climbing and a range of cooking from backwoods to extreme foods including snails and giant fried Columbian ants.

During the year the unit maintained an active approach to recruitment and credit must be given to the Explorers for attracting friends and acquaintances, swelling the ranks by almost 100% by the summer.

The year would not have been a success without the dedication of Menna Pitts, Dave Stevens and Charlie Storr who brought boundless ideas, enthusiasm, structure, discipline and humour to the events. Next year promises to be even better with more focus on badge work, DoE and the Young Leader scheme.

Iain Holliday
Explorer Scout Leader

Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31 March 2010

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 good year for CSG financially with a surplus transferred to reserves of £2673 (2009: £363) after capital spend of £117 (2009: £953) and Aylesbury Vale District Scout Group capitation charges of £3,596 (2009: £3,258). CSG has retained bank and petty cash balances totalling £10,683 (2009: £8,009) at the year end, including £998 held on trust for the Cetendone Explorer Unit.

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 .

Subscription income and activities

Subscription income has remained stable at £6,341 (2009: £6,761) in the period. The slight reduction is accounted for by timing differences of accounting for income compared to the prior year.

Section activities are funded by subscriptions and show a healthy surplus due to a reduction in the costs of these activities. Additional activities such as camps are wholly funded by additional activity charges and in-section fund raising such as Christmas Post in the cubs section. The section leaders are congratulated for keeping a tight control on costs.

The figures for the prior year include the significant additional activities of the Family Camp and Discovery Sailing Project not undertaken this year which accounts for the reduction in activity costs.

Investment income

Investment income comprised rental of the scout hut to the Tring and District Model Railway Club (TDMRC) and sundry ad hoc rentals £610 (2009; £957) and interest on bank deposits of £2 (2009: £74).

The drop in income from the prior year is accounted for by reduced rents from TDMRC, no longer receiving rent from the Brownies and also to poor interest yields on bank accounts. This reduction in income has been partly compensated for by an increased number of one off hires.

Donations and Fundraising

CSG received donations of £512 in the year (2009: £820). £450 was received from Bucks County Council to fund erection of a shed to house the donated sit on mower.

CSG has raised additional funds through fundraising activities contributing a net £755 in the year (2009: £526) from Bonfire Night food stands and Ride to the Horns parking.

Expenditure

Establishment expenses, including insurance, have increased to £1,271 (2009: £738) due to timing of electricity bills compared to the prior year, a 20% increase in insurance costs and funding £176 of repairs not covered by insurance claims in respect of damage to the hut caused by vandalism.

Expenditure on equipment

CSG has limited expenditure on capital items during the year to £117 (200:£953).

Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2010**DRAFT SUBJECT TO REVIEW**

	Year to 31st March 2010	Previous Year
	£	£
RECEIPTS		
Membership Subscriptions	6341.20	6761
Bank Interest	2.23	74
Rental Income	610.00	957
Donations/Grants	512.28	820
Activities	3564.71	5195
Fundraising	905.94	1282
Sundry Income including Gift Aid rebate	0.00	0
Total Receipts for the Year	11936.36	15089
PAYMENTS		
Premises		
Water	219.33	193
Light & Heat	289.13	50
Insurance	587.17	495
Repairs & Renewals	175.53	0
Section Activities	4065.55	8738
Fund Raising Expenses	150.82	756
Capitation	3595.50	3258
Purchase of Equipment	116.91	953
Purchase of leader's Uniform	0.00	0
Sundry	63.04	283
Total Payments for the Year	9262.98	14726
Excess of Receipts over Payments	2673.38	363
BALANCE SHEET - BANK SUMMARY		
Balances b/f		
Current Acc	2789.76	2189
Reserve Acc	4463.4	4390
Petty cash	755.76	1067
	8008.92	7646
Excess of Receipts over Payments	2673.38	363
	10682.30	8009
Represented by:		
Current Acc	4637.48	2790
Reserve Acc	4465.63	4463
Explorers monies held on trust	998.41	
Petty cash	580.78	756
	10682.30	8009