



# **1<sup>st</sup> Cheddington Scout Group**

## **Annual Report 2010-2011**

**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

# **1<sup>st</sup> Cheddington Scout Group Council**

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

to be held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2011 at 8.15 p.m.  
at Scout Headquarters, Station Road.

### **Agenda**

1. Welcome by the Group Chairman.
2. Apologies for absence.
3. Minutes of 2010 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. District Commissioner
11. A. O. B.

## Chairman's Report

Welcome to 1<sup>st</sup> Cheddington Scout Group's annual report for 2010/11.

From the reports of the Group Scout Leader and each of the Sections, you can see that it has been a remarkable year for Cheddington Scout Group. The dedication of our uniformed Leaders has resulted in more and more young people of our area being given the opportunity to have some memorable experiences. I think it is fair to say that Scouting in Cheddington has never been stronger in its history, and I am delighted that this achievement has been recognised by the highly unusual award for a third consecutive year of the District's Endeavour Award.

So in many respects, it is with a certain sadness that I am standing down from any active role in the Group. But at the same time I am confident that the Group is in safe hands. I have had several roles in last 27 years of my involvement with the Group – both uniformed and not, and have seen the extremes from having to rely on financial support from the District to having new equipment and healthy bank balances on deposit; from having the prospect of nowhere to meet to owning our own hut and surrounding land; from having to close some sections through lack of Leaders and adult support to opening additional sections to cope with waiting lists. But I can take no particular credit for this. Throughout all the time, I have had the support of many Leaders and Committee members, at both Group and District level, who have been prepared to put at least as much (if not more!) effort into making Scouting a continuing success story for Cheddington. My thanks go to them for their help.

To the new Leaders, adult helpers and committee members joining us this year, and to our successors on the Executive, I am sure that you, like me, will gain enormous satisfaction from your chosen role. From my experience, you will certainly earn the respect of others in the community and gain enormous satisfaction from seeing the enjoyment you bring to the young people despite all the hard work. You may be involved for only a short time, or for many years in several different roles. I hope I have made a difference in the last 27 years, I know that you can in the future.

ENJOY THE RIDE!

Howard Boddy  
Group Chairman

## Minutes of 2009 Annual General Meeting

1<sup>ST</sup> CHEDDINGTON SCOUT GROUP COUNCIL

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD ON 05<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2010 AT THE SCOUT HEADQUARTERS

### Chairman's Welcome:

Howard Boddy opened the meeting by welcoming parents and David Tichener (District Commissioner).

### Apologies for absence:

Hayden Davies (Cub Scout Leader), Charlie Storr (Explorer Scout Leader)

### Minutes of Previous Meeting:

The 2009 minutes were approved by the meeting following proposal by Dave Fisher.

No matters arising were discussed.

### Approval of Annual Report

Ian Hale introduced the annual report describing a most successful year for Cheddington Scouts with 100 members enjoying many activities. Last year, our young people spent a total of 450 nights away. Ian expressed thanks to all the leaders for their time and effort.

Dave Fisher and Hayden Davies are finally stepping down after 8 years running Cubs, and as a result new leaders are needed after Christmas. Ian Holliday (Explorers) is also leaving.

There is now a waiting list of 17 with all sections at full capacity.

It is planned to purchase new equipment, make on going repairs and possibly replace the Hut in the future. For this a fund-raising team will be needed including parents.

Ian proposed the approval of the annual report which was seconded by Jan Doole and approved by the meeting.

### Treasurers report.

Julia thanked Lindsay, Keith and Dave for keeping costs down with good budgeting resulting in a healthy surplus of funds. The hiring out of the hut is a good financial contribution to funds.

The major fund raising events were "the Ride to the Horns" £305.00 and the BBQ at the bonfire evening £400.00.

Approval of the annual accounts was proposed by the chairman, seconded by Louise Lancaster and agreed by the meeting.

### Appointment of Officers:

Ian nominated Howard Boddy to continue as Chairman and the meeting approved Jill Griffin as secretary and Julia Robinson as Treasurer. The meeting approved the appointment of Kim Key, Alison Bell, Gary Fenton and Michelle Aulton onto the executive committee.

### Guest Speaker

The Meeting was addressed by David Tichener, District Commissioner. He thanked Ian and all the leaders for their continuing hard work within the Group. The group was congratulated for winning the Endeavour Shield for the second year in succession.

David presented the following awards:

- Ian Hale was presented with his GSLs Wood Badge and the 25 Years' Service Award.
- Howard Boddy, Jill Griffin and Jan Doole were presented with the Chief Scout's Commendation.
- Sarah Hale was awarded her ASL's Wood Badge, the 15 Years' Service Award and the Medal of Merit.

A.O.B.

The Meeting was closed by the Chairman with thanks to the Hale family for refreshments.

**Awards 2010/11**

**Gold Chief Scout's Award**

Emily Hale  
Anna Wallace

**Bronze Chief Scout's Award**

Kai Austin  
Riley Barnes  
Harry Bell  
Leon Brown  
Joey Buckland  
Freddie Collins  
Joff Daly  
Walter Hackett

Jasper Johnston  
Harry Lancaster  
Ray Long  
Luke McNamara  
Louis Moss  
Morgan Parry  
Sam Pearce  
William Spencer

## Group Scout Leader's Report

It's been another absolutely fantastic year for 1<sup>st</sup> 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. As well as the camps, the sections have enjoyed many different events and competitions, not forgetting the all important weekly meetings which provide the core of the activities. The Scout Group is now seen as a key part of the local community, providing real benefits to our members as well as involving all the parents and families in our activities so everyone can benefit.



Although the group has continued its good work, it has also been a real year of change. We were pleased to welcome Michelle Aulton to the Beaver Leader team in January, providing some much needed help to Lindsay. At the start of 2011, Dave and Hayden stepped down after eight years of leading the Cub Pack and a new team of parents stepped up to the mark and have successfully taken over the running of the section, mentored by Sarah Hale. Scouts and Explorers have continued a steady growth but our biggest change has been the opening of the new Beaver Colony this September, which will make a huge difference to the group. We now have a total of 116 section members, along with 23 leaders, making us one of the largest groups in the area.

For the third year running Cheddington has won the District Endeavour Trophy. This is awarded to the group who have performed most consistently throughout the year including attendance and success at District activities and competitions and 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 Anna Wallace and Emily Hale for achieving their Gold Chief Scout's Award, the first for many years in the Scout Troop, and to the sixteen Beavers who achieved their Bronze Award.



Parental involvement has continued to grow in the group with successful fundraising events such as the Ferret Racing evening and the Village Fayre, regular help at weekly meetings and other activities such as visits and camps, help with work parties at the hut and another successful Family Camp in July. This is an area all leaders have worked hard at and it has certainly proved its worth.

Unfortunately, we are losing some of our key adults this year; Charles Storr is stepping down from Explorers after two years and we are losing Howard Boddy, Jill Griffin and Julia Robinson who are not standing for re-election as Group Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer respectively. All of these have made a huge difference to the group during their time and we are extremely grateful for the time they have dedicated to the group, particularly Howard who has been with us since 1984.

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 our young people, 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 has 45 Beavers, consisting of 28 boys and 17 girls.

Over the last year, 9 (yes, nine!) new leaders have joined and have all been fantastic!

Michelle Aulton joined Ian and me after Christmas and has taken on a lot of responsibility for planning and running the sessions, and been a huge help to me.

Children on the waiting list were often not able to get places in the colony. So in June, supported by County, we organised a campaign to assess interest in a second group. This consisted of a visit to Cheddington school, a poster campaign and an Open Evening at one of our regular Beaver sessions, which was extremely well attended. A number of children registered to join, and a number of adults came forward to be leaders. Thanks must go to Simon Aulton, Ben Storrar and Ian for all their work on this and attracting so much interest and support.

Over the summer we have been planning the new meeting and this opened on Monday 12th September, with 20 Beavers and 5 new leaders – Nick Russon, Naomi O’Dwyer, Peter Marshall, Jude Beaumont and Shaun Austin. We will operate as one colony, running the same program as much as possible. In keeping with the space theme used for lodge names, Monday’s group has been name “Endeavour” and Thursday’s “Discovery”.

Thursday’s meetings have also received some much needed help following the campaign, and three new leaders have joined us, Louise Lancaster, Jo Jones and Jeanette Barnes. Parental and young leader help continues to be very good on Thursdays, thanks in particular to Manda Hackett, Tracey Els and Stephanie Purnell.

Ian is still involved with both groups, especially for special events such as sleepovers and outings.

An amazing 16 Beavers have achieved their Chief Scouts Bronze Award this year; a huge number of challenge and activity badges have been awarded and the Beavers’ sweatshirts are well covered in an array of these. Most notable sessions include a visit from The Reptile Roadshow, a visit to Hazard Alley, a fun swim session at Aquavale and a visit by Dave Walker with his stream engine – a real hit with the Beavers! In May we held a Parent-Beaver camp at Lees Wood campsite. 15 Beavers attended with 13 parents (2 parents each had 2 children in Beavers), with the Beavers sleeping in bunk rooms and parents camping. It was a fun weekend and a popular event. We also attended the County Beaveree in May. And Discovery Beavers have recently been on a trip to RAF Hendon museum followed by a sleepover at the Scout Hut.

Lindsay Parkinson  
Beaver Scout Leader



## Cubs

The Cub Pack came under new leadership at the start of 2011 when Dave Fisher and Hayden Davies hung up their woggles after eight years. The new leadership team has Nicola Chang as Leader, supported by four assistant leaders, James Bell, Tony Daly, Karin Hing and Chris Spencer. The team has been ably supported by Sarah Hale while we undergo the necessary training. We have also been helped by Rory Bush, who is working towards his Duke of Edinburgh Award.





The sessions have covered various challenges and badges; with a number of the new leaders having a science background, the science badge was an early ambition! We also covered the creativity challenge during the spring term (the Three Little Pigs performed in the style of Star Wars was quite an experience), and finished the term with an Easter Egg trail around the village. The summer term was much more focused on outdoor activities including a climbing wall (joint with Scouts), a hike (which included a number of fitness challenges including running up Ivinghoe Beacon) and a bike ride to the Bridgewater Monument at Ashridge. We also had a fun athletics session at the recreation ground and a number of the cubs are probably still getting their breath back after taking the infamous beep test!

We ran a successful day camp at Phasels Wood, which included the usual games, campfire cooking and songs, whilst the Cubs and Leaders also braved the zip wire.



The Cubs also turned their hands to flower arranging for Mothers Day and learned an essential life skill so that they could prepare a bacon sandwich and cup of tea for their dads on Father's day.

The attendance at the St George's Day Parade was very good and all of the cubs were smartly turned out and well behaved during the parade and service at Halton.

For the autumn 2011 term, we are planning to do various badges and we will have a weekend Cub Camp at Lees Wood Activity Centre. We will also welcome Jeanette

Barnes to the team as a Sectional Assistant. We also intend to maintain a great tradition of the Cub Pack and run the highly valued and appreciated Cubs Christmas Post around the village!

Nicola, Chris, James, Karin and Tony  
The Cub Leader Team

## Scouts

The Scout section still has a full house, with 5 full patrols, with up to a total of 30 youngsters.



We had an extremely varied year, with a thought-provoking visit to a Buddhist Monastery, a drama evening of acting, a visit to Quasar in Hemel, sword-fighting, making "explosive" Mother's Day presents, a visitor talking about fruits, swimming, scavenger hunt, canoeing, a climbing-wall, ten-pin bowling, a bike-ride, "Get-out-of-that" evening.....along with our usual games, Scouting-themes, hikes (even in the freezing cold weather!!), cooking, fires, pioneering, badge-work, and of course all our camps: 4 in this year, with the

main one at Longridge on the Thames.

We are extremely proud to have two of our Scouts gain their "Chief Scout's Gold Award" this year - Anna Wallace and Emily Hale. A huge achievement in gaining all 9 of their challenge badges. Well done!!

Keith Malcolm  
Scout Leader



## Cetendone Explorers

Cetendone Explorers finished the year with 17 young people.

Events and achievements that warrant special mention are:

- Grimsdyke hike – an orienteering competition and overnight camp last November in temperatures of  $-7^{\circ}\text{C}$ . We enjoyed it so much, we're going to do it again this year!
- Survival camp – a camp at Braid Wood on a very cold January night without any camping equipment
- Endurance 80 – a 50 mile continuous walk in the Chilterns completed in 22 hours by Jay Grocock and Charley Stevens plus leaders Menna Pitts and Dave Stevens
- Revolution – a week of fun and sun on the Isle of Wight at Easter
- Sun Run – music and fun weekend in July



We also exhibited at the Mentmore Arts Festival allowing our Explorers to gain their Creative Arts badge.



Sadly we had to wave good bye to leaders Iain Holliday at the start of the year and to Charlie Storr at the end of the year. However, we are pleased to welcome Jon Doole as an occasional helper who brings all his bushcraft skills and lowers the average age of the Explorer leaders by about 15 years!

Cetendone Explorers big objective for 2011/12 is to launch and complete bronze D of E awards for our first cohort and to start work on Silver for those that want to progress to the next stage.

Menna Pitts and Dave Stevens  
Explorer Scout Leaders

## **Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31 March 2011**

### **Overview**

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

A surplus was transferred to reserves of £1,556 (2010: £2,673) after capital spend of £283 (2010: £117) and Aylesbury Vale District Scout Group capitation charges of £2978 (2010: £3,802). CSG has retained bank and petty cash balances totalling £12,227 (2010: £10,682) 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 surplus remaining as noted above.

### **Subscription income and activities**

Subscription income has remained steady at £6,823 (2010: £6,341) the increase being accounted for in timing differences of accounting for income compared to the prior year.

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 as well as at least one camp for each of the sections. The increased section activity costs reflect this increased level of activity and also timing differences of expenditure for activities.

### **Investment income**

Investment income comprised rental of the scout hut to the Tring and District Model Railway Club (TDMRC) and sundry hires during the year of £590 (2010: £610) and interest on bank deposits of £2 (2008: £2).

The return on investment in bank accounts is low in line with market rates and transfer of accounts to the Charities Aid Fund bank is currently under review with the aim of increasing the return on deposits held.

### **Donations and Fundraising**

CSG received donations of £137 in the year (2010:£512). The reduction is due to lack of funding for capital projects in the year compared to the prior year.

CSG has raised created additional funds through fundraising contributing a net £1,771 (2008: £1,497) from the ferret racing night in December 2010 (£1,079), Bonfire Night food stands (£497) and Christmas post (£195). Profits from the ferret racing night are after amounts paid to Cetendone Explorers as the evening was a joint fundraising event.

Post year end £700 of matched funding has been received from Santander (net of Cetendone Explorers share of £700).

### **Expenditure**

Establishment expenses, including insurance, have dropped to £1,144 (2010: £1,271) due to timing of water bills and a reduction in insurance costs compared to the prior year offset by a small increase in repair costs.

### **Expenditure on equipment**

CSG has limited expenditure on capital items during the year to £283 (2010:£117)

**Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2011****DRAFT SUBJECT TO REVIEW**

|   | <b>Year to 31st<br/>March 2011</b> | <b>Previous<br/>Year</b> |
|---|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
|   | <b>£</b>                           | <b>£</b>                 |
| <b>RECEIPTS</b>                         |                                    |                          |
| Membership Subscriptions                | 6823                               | 6341                     |
| Bank Interest                           | 2                                  | 2                        |
| Rental Income                           | 590                                | 610                      |
| Donations/Grants                        | 137                                | 512                      |
| Activities                              | 4437                               | 3565                     |
| Fundraising                             | 4242                               | 906                      |
| Sundry Income including Gift Aid rebate | 0                                  | 0                        |
| <b>Total Receipts for the Year</b>      | <b>16231</b>                       | <b>11936</b>             |
| <b>PAYMENTS</b>                         |                                    |                          |
| Premises                                |                                    |                          |
| Water                                   | 137                                | 219                      |
| Light & Heat                            | 274                                | 289                      |
| Insurance                               | 483                                | 587                      |
| Repairs & Renewals                      | 250                                | 176                      |
| Section Activities                      | 7798                               | 4066                     |
| Fund Raising Expenses                   | 2472                               | 151                      |
| Capitation                              | 2978                               | 3595                     |
| Purchase of Equipment                   | 283                                | 117                      |
| Purchase of Leader's Uniform            | 0                                  | 0                        |
| Sundry                                  | 0                                  | 63                       |
| <b>Total Payments for the Year</b>      | <b>14675</b>                       | <b>9263</b>              |
| <b>Excess of Receipts over Payments</b> | <b>1556</b>                        | <b>2673</b>              |
| <b>BALANCE SHEET - BANK SUMMARY</b>     |                                    |                          |
| <b>Balances b/f</b>                     |                                    |                          |
| Current Acc                             | 6645                               | 2790                     |
| Reserve Acc                             | 4466                               | 4463                     |
| Explorer monies held on trust           | (998)                              |                          |
| Petty Cash                              | 569                                | 756                      |
|   | <b>10682</b>                       | <b>8009</b>              |
| Excess of Receipts over Payments        | 1556                               | 2673                     |
|   | <b>12238</b>                       | <b>10682</b>             |
| <b>Represented by:</b>                  |                                    |                          |
| Current Acc                             | 8349                               | 6645                     |
| Reserve Acc                             | 4468                               | 4466                     |
| Explorers monies held on trust          | (894)                              | (998)                    |
| Petty Cash                              | 315                                | 569                      |
|   | <b>12238</b>                       | <b>10682</b>             |