

150th Sheffield (Wadsley Church) Scout Group

Annual Review and AGM

Monday 3 October 2016

7:30pm

**Venue: The Sportsman Inn, 183 Worrall Road,
Sheffield, S6 4BB**



**Group Report 2015/2016
and Programme**

150th Sheffield (Wadsley Church) Scout Group
Est. March 1925 Charity No. 1007932

AGM Programme

Item	Introduced By
Chairman's Welcome & Introductions. <u>AGM</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Apologies for Absence (Officials and Executive Members).</i> • <i>Minutes of the last AGM.</i> • <i>Annual Reports.</i> • <i>Receipt and Approval of Annual Accounts.</i> • <i>Explanation of the structure of the Executive Committee and relationship of the Leadership team.</i> 	Craig Ruding, Chairman
<u>Appointments</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Appointment of Chairman</i> • <i>Election of Vice Chairman</i> • <i>Election of Treasurer</i> • <i>Election of Secretary</i> • <i>Appointment of Auditor</i> • <i>Election of Parent Reps and Members to the Executive.</i> 	Acting GSL Chairman Chairman Chairman Treasurer Chairman
<i>End of formal proceedings.</i> Reminders: Leaders Meeting – 24 October 2016 Executive Committee – 21 November 2016. Group Bonfire – Friday 4 November 2016 Remembrance Service – 13 November 2016	

Thank you for your attendance and support this year

Trustees 2015/2016		
<i>Craig Ruding - Chair</i>	<i>Henry Bryan</i>	<i>Dave Wright</i>
<i>David Whitley - Treasurer</i>	<i>Tracey Harrison-Marr</i>	<i>Neil McKay (District Commissioner)</i>
<i>Kerry Moorby - Secretary</i>	<i>Paul Renner</i>	Parent Reps:
<i>Ingunn Holen – HQ & Subs</i>	<i>Alison Cunnell (until Feb 2016)</i>	<i>Jane Ginnever</i>
<i>Hazel Guy – Membership</i>	<i>Jo Burke (from March 2016)</i>	<i>Ailsa Gill</i>
<i>Aaron King – Acting GSL</i>	<i>Sarah Smith</i>	<i>Joanne Taylor</i>
<i>Rob Darrington – Deputy GSL</i>	<i>Jane Palmer</i>	<i>Gayle Bramhall</i>
<i>David Wilson</i>	<i>Sharon Ward</i>	<i>Rachel Cottam</i>

Group Chairman's Report

Well that's another record year in 150th Group's history which has seen an increase in both numbers of members and adult leaders/helpers and time for another AGM.

Although the AGM was always the point in the year to reflect on the activities of the various sections, financial standing of the group, and election/re-election of volunteers to the Executive Committee, it has also been an opportunity to ask for new volunteers to step forward to act as parental representatives. Unfortunately it was evident at last years AGM that that unless there is some involvement from the younger members during the proceedings, attendance by parents/carers is very low. It is a lot to ask the leaders to prepare younger members for a presentation for the AGM, given their already full programmes and lack of available time so it was decided that this years AGM should follow a different format. The "official" AGM business regarding presentation/approval of accounts and election of Exec members will still take place on the 3rd October 2016 but without younger members being present as quite honestly it is not their "cup of tea". Parents/carers are welcome to attend, and particularly those who wish to play a more active part in the Group's continued success. The increase in the number of younger members means that adult support and assistance is always welcome to cope with the growing numbers. As volunteers you would only need to offer whatever help you are willing to give.

One of the biggest benefits we have seen over the last year has been the improvement in communication between the Exec and Leadership team with regular newsletters sent out to keep all informed. As with any Group of the size of the 150th there are often cross-cutting issues which need to be addressed and although there has never been disagreement between the Exec and the Leadership team, the improved communication has made processes far easier for all to understand and avoided unnecessary delays in taking action.

Perhaps the biggest highlight of the year was 90th Birthday celebration held at Worrall Park/Community Centre. This was extremely well attended by both younger members and adults and my thanks go to all concerned in making this event possible. Although restricted to the kitchen for most of it, the feedback I received suggested that all enjoyed their day and fortunately the weather was kind to us.

I announced at last years AGM that this was to be my final year as Chairman although I do intend to remain on the Executive Committee. Fortunately Peter Rotchell has volunteered to take over the position, who I am sure will ably fit the position.

My thanks go to all of the members of the Executive Committee and Leadership Team who have supported me over the years and in particular to Aaron King, Acting Group Scout Leader for his active role in developing activities and progressing the Group such that numbers are at a record high.

If you help with the Group and cannot identify with any of those I have already thanked, your assistance is appreciated so "Thank You".

Craig Ruding
Group Chairman

Group Scout Leader's Report

It's been another full year!

With exciting programmes, nights away from home and the opportunity to have fun with a wide range of friends, demand for places continues to demonstrate how much the local community value 150th (Wadsley Church) Scout Group.

This year saw the Group continue to grow. When we count up all the young members, we've over 250 young people on the books.

We're lucky to have the support of a wide range of leaders and helpers who have helped to make this group such a great part of so many young people's lives. Thanks to everyone who has volunteered during the year, no matter how large or small their contribution.

Thanks to parents who are helping out in leadership and Executive roles and finding out how enjoyable it is. This is fantastic & we're very grateful for the support and help from these parents.

There's always room for more help, so if you are interested in helping out, please speak to one of the current volunteers, or get in touch via the *Contact us* section of 150th.org.uk.

I hope that you enjoy the AGM and that your son/daughter enjoys the exciting year ahead!

Aaron King
Acting Group Scout Leader (Jul 2015 onwards)

Treasurer's Report (period 1st April 2015 to 31st March 2016)

This has been another busy year with one of my highlights being the Groups 90th celebration event at Worrall Park. It was great to see so many people supporting the event and enjoying themselves – my favourites were the laser tag, pizzas and music in the evening.

This year started with an opening balance of £12,035.59 and a closing balance (including cash in hand) of £18,195.20 – of which £7,447.17 is restricted, with £3,841.00 being for our third trip to Kandersteg in 2017. There was a total income for the year of £52,277.32 and expenditure of £46,117.17.

The healthy financial position that the Group is in enables us to continue to maintain subs at a consistent level, although we have had a big change in the year with over 95% of payments now being made by standing order. Thank you for your support for us in introducing this change – I personally want to thank Aaron for his hard work in setting it up, and Ingunn for continuing to monitor and chase subs payments.

Our financial position also enables us to continue to offer a financial support fund. The fund exists to make sure hardship does not prevent any youngster from joining in the Scouting adventure. Please get in touch if you feel that the 'discretionary fund' could help your personal situation, either for subs payments or for a camp.

Excluding camps, our subscriptions to the Group continue to be our biggest source of income, at £18,583 across all sections - although this is slightly down from last year in the cub section.

Gift Aid continues to be our second highest stream of income at £6,554.32 (although some was actually from 2014/15). I would appeal again for any tax payer who has not already done so to complete a Gift Aid form so that we can claim back tax you have paid. This extra income (25p in the £1) helps us to keep subs at their low levels. We will be working to update our Gift Aid records through the year, so please be aware that we may contact you either to encourage you to Gift Aid or we have picked up that you have moved house and we need a new form signed!

In terms of expenditure, camp expenses and grants to all sections were again high. The size of the group (including volunteers) also leads to an increase in the District levy we pay. At £8,550 the figure is £437.00 higher than in 2014/15.

So what is new for 2016/17? We are continuing to use our income for investing in equipment as well as maintenance and further renovation of the Scout HQ. Current plans include for the refurbishment of the toilets to provide a more accessible facility for all.

Finally, I am grateful for the support of all who help me in my role, but particular thanks must go to Mick Weatherall who continues to record and bank all camp and activities income and to Ingunn Holen who has continued in her role of subs treasurer.

I seek your approval for the adoption of these annual accounts in advance of them being sent to our independent examiner (see Appendix 1).

David Whitley
Honorary Treasurer

Beaver Team Reports

Tuesday Beaver Colony

This past year has been a busy one for the Tuesday Beavers as they have been celebrating their 30th birthday. We said goodbye to Brian who went to Wednesday Cubs and said hello to Sam Clarke and Laura Strong. This term Brian has returned to us so we say hello to him. We have also had three very helpful Young Leaders, Louisa, Dan and Ben.

The Beavers have been working on lots of badges and I am pleased to say that we achieved 6 Chief Scouts Bronze Awards. We are now working on the next ones as we have some that are close to obtaining theirs.

We started the year with a birthday party at Hillsborough. We have enjoyed being part of the RHS Rocket Science Experiment and our seeds didn't do too bad at growing. We linked the project into their sleepover in June and made it a Space Camp where they learned about the planets and achieved some good results with various experiments. I would like to thank Jeremy and Katherine Carter for organising the experiments and the planets. Unfortunately the weather was against us for using a telescope but maybe next time we will have better luck. Their next sleepover is a Harry Potter themed one in November. Everybody is getting very excited about it, particularly as the Hogwarts owls have now delivered the letters to the Beavers.

We also attended the County's Mission Beaver 30th birthday party in March where the Beavers had fun with high ropes, den building along with lots of other fun activities. The only thing that marred it was that they got caught up in a stomach bug and didn't get to do their Sunday activities.

We have had also enjoyed visits from the Teddy Bear Hospital and the SRSB and both will be returning in a future programme. We also had Bricks and Bits attend. They bought two big boxes of Lego and the Beavers, with their dads made robots and had a great time playing. We also enjoyed learning some sword dancing with the Sheffield Steel Tappers.

We also joined in with the Wadsley Festival and had a go at maypole dancing.

Their end of term party was an elephant hunt around Sheffield ending up with ice cream and a drink. We found lots of the elephants and took lots of photos ready for the start of the Photographers badge later on in the year.

This year's programme is just as packed with fun and I am hoping that the Beavers are going to attain lots of badges again.

I would really like to thank Laura, Sam, Brian, Louise, Dan and Ben for all their help and hard work. I would also like to give a big thank you to all the parents who have helped, even if it is just putting up a tent at sleepover or helping a lodge on Beaver night. Without their help and support we would not be able to do the jobs we do.

Sharon Ward
Tuesday Beaver Scout Leader.

Thursday Beaver Colony

Report awaited.

Cub Team Reports

Monday Cub Pack

Since the last AGM, Monday cubs has grown in size and numbers and has also had a big change in adult leadership. We no longer have Alison, Cheryl or Stuart and now the group is run by Richard and myself. We have also had help from Mel, Liz and Daniel and the young leaders.

The Cubs have enjoyed a balanced programme which has included swimming, underground soup, firing rockets, and erupting volcanos. We have visited the common and helped the "Wadsley Commoners" maintain the growth of small trees (chopping back bigger branches) and bracken bashing which encourages the heather to grow.

At Christmas we visited a local sheltered housing and handed out shoeboxes filled with goodies and played "bingo" and games with the residents. A few members brought along their instruments and played carols whilst the cubs sang along. There has already been a request to revisit this year, as the residents were very grateful of the company.

The Cubs have also taken part in a "Know your bike basics" session at Halfords and a pet session at Pets at Home. The end of Summer activity was Outdoor Laser Tag at Tankersley, which was enjoyed by all.

We have also combined road safety awareness with a walk around the area visiting a chip shop at the end, this almost ended in disaster as there had been a power cut earlier, we almost had "our chips" but luckily they had enough.

We are looking forward to another fun packed year with new and existing cubs.

Jo Burke
Monday Cub Scout Leader

Wednesday Cub Pack

Report awaited.

Friday Cub Pack

16th December 2016 marks the Centenary of Cub Scouting and it has been named 'Year of Adventure'. In April we attended a special screening of the new version of Jungle Book at the Odeon with many cub scouts from across the city. We have been to Ariel Extreme, climbing at the Foundry and orienteering at Western Park. We are also planning to remake our promises on the exact date and time cub scouting reaches 100 years! This will be 7.16pm, Friday 16th December at a special event at The Octagon again with other cub scouts from across Sheffield.

Summer Camp this year also was based on 100 years of cub scouting. A most successful event with lovely weather and a lively group of cubs (and a supportive team of leaders). On the last day the fresh and willing parent helpers who arrived early to help us drop camp and pack the van were so appreciated.

Molly Weatherall (former cub, scout, then leader) left us to go to University and we hope to see her again soon. The adult leader team of Rachel, Mark and myself work very well together (well they haven't told me any different - lol). Our young leaders Josh (Chewbacca) and Jude (Joo-ood) continue to be very committed and are growing in confidence and skills.

Pack night organisation has been very much helped by adopting a new computer system. Or perhaps it has reduced my stress levels massively and increased the number of badges we are able to award? We have visited the Buddhist Centre and had a hike (tree climb) on the common. We have done our Navigators, Astronomy, Global Issues, Chefs badges to name but a few and are also getting most cubs through their cub scout silver by the time they move up. Phew!!! Bring on 2017 ...

Sarah Smith
Friday Cub Scout Leader

Scout Team Reports

Tuesday Troop Report

Tuesday scouts continues to be a growing troop. This last year has seen 8 scouts achieve their Scouts Gold award which shows great commitment and hard work by these scouts.

Summer Camp 2016 was won by a patrol of mainly Tuesday scouts and mainly girls (two male scouts joined halfway through camp). The girls had wanted to prove that they could run a successful and hardworking patrol. They certainly did that.

The weekly programme has been very varied with the scouts working with Wadsley Commoners to help clear an area of Wadsley and Loxley Common. This partnership will continue with other sections joining in too.

All of the original members of the first Tuesday troop meeting have now moved up to Explorers and there has been very few scouts just stop coming. Thank you to all of the leader team (both adult and young) for their continued hard work, commitment, great ideas and never ending patience with me losing various pieces of paper during most scout nights!

Tracey Harrison-Marr
Tuesday Scout Leader

Thursday Troop Report

In the past year we have had to say goodbye to nine of our older Scouts. Six of these have moved up to Explorers and are now completing their higher Chief Scouts Awards. I would like to take this opportunity to wish them all the best in their future in and out of scouting. With their skills, knowledge and determination, I am confident that they will do well at anything they challenge themselves to.

Over the past year the Scouts have taken part in many new evening activities such as; Bread (a business game where you have to trade and buy stock to make a product), a visit to one of Sheffield's largest Mosques and Dragons Den. They have also see the return of popular successful evening activities such as: swimming at Barnsley Metrodome; construction challenge; knife, axe and saw work; and of course - Monkey Tennis. We have also taken part in several weekend activities such as Winter Weekend, Survival Camp, an overnight hike, a family day cycle ride and a PL's expedition to achieve their Expedition Challenge award. The Scouts have managed to earn many badges this year including World Faiths, Entertainer, Astronomer, Circus Skills, DIY, Photographer, Digital Maker, Navigator, Geocache, Forester, Survival Skills, Creative Challenge, Personal Challenge & Expedition Challenge. To top off our very successful year we also entered the Hallam District Cooking Competition and won!

During the year we have gained two new adult leaders from outside of the leader team - Tim and Jacqueline. We have had two young leaders move up to be adult leaders but have welcomed two more young leaders from Tuesday Scout Troop. To provide such a varied and fun packed programme, with all the activities and nights of last year, has only been possible because of the great team of leaders and helpers. I would like to take this opportunity to say a personal thank you to all of them.

Thank you and well done to all.

Henry Bryan
Thursday Scout Leader

Friday Troop Report

The strength of the troop continues to rise with great regular numbers and an old leader (Dave Wright) returning to bolster the ranks of the leadership team. We have said farewell, for now, to Kieran Marr who has left for university. This next year the troop will be focusing on progressing through the Chief Scouts Gold Award as well as a number of the other scouting badges. We have just returned from a very successful survival weekend in which a large proportion of the troop enjoyed a weekend of bivvy whacking, fire lighting and skinning of rabbits.

I would like to say a very large thankyou to all the leadership team for their continued efforts to support the running of the troop and activities. I would also like to thank Sarah Smith and Rachel Cottam for their endeavours and insistence on getting the Friday Troop up to date with Online Scout Manager and streamlining our admin process, this has been extremely helpful.

Paul Renner
Friday Scout Leader

Hillsborough ESU Annual Report

The Explorer Unit continues to grow and this September we welcomed our newest batch of recruits, bringing our total membership to 40 Explorer Scouts.

Recent activities have included raft building at Underbank Activity Centre, kayaking on the River Don, laser tag, self-defence night and a visit to the Sheffield Escape Rooms. We also had 3 teams taking part in the Apex challenge in October.

In March we held our annual Spring Residential at Glenbrook Outdoor Centre in Bamford. The action packed weekend featured navigation training and a walk around the Castleton ridge on the Saturday and a weaselling session on the Sunday morning followed by Sunday roast sandwiches.

Over the summer we joined Stannington ESU for a trip to Iceland where activities included Snorkelling in a glacial lake, walking on a glacier, white water rafting, hiking up a volcano, swimming in thermal spas, whale watching and a sightseeing trip to the capital Reykjavik. Next summer we'll be returning to Kandersteg International Scout Centre in Switzerland alongside the 150th Scouts.

We continue to work towards our Chief Scout and DofE awards alongside other Explorers within Hallam district through the HEXNET group. We have several groups very close to attaining their Chief Scout Awards. Watch this space.

A huge thanks to our dedicated leader team. If any parents would like to join our team or are available to help out at camps or activities please speak to Phil or Jez at one of our Monday night meetings.

Yours in Scouting

The 'Hillsborough ESU Leader Team'

150th Sheffield (Wadsley Church) Scout Group AGM Minutes – 2 October 2015

Present:

Members of the Executive Committee (Craig Ruding, David Whitley, Kerry Moorby, Ingunn Holen); Section Leaders and Assistants (Joe Bell, Henry Bryan, Joanne Burke, Tracey Harrison Marr, Mark Marshall, Paul Renner, Mark Richardson, Cheryl Rush, Brian Taylor, Sharon Ward); Beavers; Cubs; Scouts; Explorers; and approx. 6 parents.

Chairman's Welcome

Craig Ruding (Chairman) thanked everyone for attending the 150th Wadsley Scouts 90th year AGM and advised those present that this is an official meeting the group are required to hold each year.

He drew attention to the parts of the meeting where approval would be sought and elections. He thanked all those who have worked to support and assist the group over the last year – both in the leadership team and on the executive committee. Elections for a number of executive posts would take place later in the evening.

AGM business

- A) Apologies from Members of the Executive and others (Tom Dyson, Rob Darrington, Aaron King, Jeremy Knowles, Phil Tricklebank).
- B) Craig requested approval of the Minutes of the last meeting held 26 September 2014:-
Unanimously agreed.

Wednesday Cub Scout Presentation:

Show and tell – badges and other items received from Sydney, Australia.

AGM business

- C) Approval of Annual Reports:-
Unanimously agreed.

Tuesday Beaver Scout Presentation:

Photographs of an eventful year including badge work and the Xmas party (with a high ropes investiture!)

AGM business

- D) Treasurers Report presented by David Whitley.

Successes for Group highlighted in report include 1,000 nights away and global scouting. Incoming monies include £25,000 in camp receipts, subs increase due to a new group and another good year for fundraising. The group have previously been able to offer a discretionary fund and this will continue.

David explained that due to the complexities of finances relating to Kandersteg, the accounts have been delayed and have not yet been presented to the independent examiner. So with the caveat that there may be minor changes once this process is complete David sought approval of the accounts.

- E) Adoption of the Accounts:-
Unanimously agreed.

Thursday Scout Presentation:

The Chief Scout Gold Award Hike 2014

AGM business

F) Appointment of Chairman:-

Craig Ruding advised that the Chair of the Executive Committee is not elected but appointed by the Group Scout Leader. In the absence of Aaron King, Acting GSL, Henry Bryan gave thanks to Craig for his leadership and also to the executive team. Henry asked Craig to continue in post for a further year which he agreed to do. Craig commented that he had held the position of Chair for more years than he cared to remember and had seen the group increase from 3 to the current 8 sections. He confirmed he would be looking to step down at the next AGM and if anyone was interested in taking up post of Vice-Chair this would be a good opportunity to get involved.

Tuesday Scout Presentation

"I Scout Because ..." a video by the Tuesday troop followed by a presentation relating to the Yorkshire Rose Challenge where 2 teams from 150th finished in the top 5!

AGM business

Craig Ruding confirmed the role of the executive committee which is to relieve pressure on the leadership team with management, financial and admin support to enable them to concentrate on planning section nights etc.

G) Election of Vice-Chair:-

No interest.

H) Election of Treasurer:-

David Whitley agreed to continue as Treasurer.

Proposed by Craig Ruding

Seconded by Sharon Ward

I) Election of Secretary

Kerry Moorby agreed to continue as Secretary.

Proposed by Paul Renner

Seconded by Tracey Harrison-Marr

J) Appointment of Auditor

David Whitley confirmed Lucinda Barlow would continue as Auditor.

Unanimously agreed

K) Election of Membership Secretary

Hazel Guy had previously agreed to continue in this role.

Proposed by Tracey Harrison-Marr

Seconded by David Whitley

L) Election of Assistant for Subs

Ingunn Holen agreed to continue in this role.

Proposed by David Whitley

Seconded by Sharon Ward

M) Election of Parent Representatives - Gayle Bramall, Rachel Cottam (also Acting Asst Cub Scout Leader), Ailsa Gill, Jane Ginnever, Joanne Taylor.

Proposed by Ingunn Holen

Seconded by Joe Bell

N) Date of the next Executive Meeting

The next Executive Committee meeting will be held on Monday 23 November at 7.30pm in the Sportsman Pub.

Kandersteg 2017

A presentation by Mark Marshall on proposals for next trip to Kandersteg July/August 2017 (dates to be confirmed). Main points – travel by coach, tents provided by venue, open to Scouts who will be age 12 by start of trip, 49 places (including Leaders, Scouts, Explorers), approx. cost £650 +- 10%, expressions of interest by email to Kandersteg2017@gmail.com, £50 deposit required asap. The trip will be organised by Venture Abroad.

Fundraising events will be planned to help with cost.

David Whitley has agreed to look after finances and commented that there had been excellent feedback after the last trip from Leaders and Scouts. There will be a firm payment structure that individuals will need to commit to as the group cannot afford to pay the instalments required by Venture Abroad on behalf of individual members.

Craig Ruding reminded everyone of forthcoming group events as follows:-

Bonfire – 6 November 2015.

Remembrance Service – 8 November 2015. In view of numbers attending previously there is the option of an additional service just for Scouts at 9 am. Leaders need to confirm if they wish to take up this offer.

Craig Ruding thanked everyone for attending.

Meeting Closed.