





Chair's Report 2024

2023/24 was a challenging year as the new committee took on a list of tasks that needed to be done to ensure the health and safety, the longevity and sustainability of the Scout Hall and its users. Items such as investing in safety measures, maintenance, reducing costs and promoting both hall hire and scout subscriptions were high on the list.

It was our first full year since reopening after COVID-19 and the team really pulled together. A huge thank you goes out to all our leaders, committee members and volunteers for their help and support. Though a number of these outstanding repairs resulted in higher expenses they were worthwhile for the sustainability of our group. There are a few outstanding items that require attention this financial year. We do need to draw our attention to rising costs, the need to fundraise more and ensuring subs are paid on time as these hit our bottom line and eat into our savings unnecessarily.

Lessons learned are that we need to communicate better as a team, not rely heavily on one or two members and recruit more volunteers and leaders to help with building our group stronger. Thank you all for your loyalty and enthusiasm in helping our children grow into well rounded individuals.

Kirsten Webster
Chair.

Scout Values:

Respect: We have self-respect and respect for others.

Care: We support others and take care of the world in which we live.

Belief: We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes.

Cooperation: We make a positive difference; we co-operate with others and make friends.



AGM: 4th SALISBURY (Harnham) SCOUT GROUP

28 September 2024

Meeting held at Harnham Scout Hut 18:00 start.

Attendees:

Name	Role	Remarks
Kirsten McLachlan Webster (KMW)	Chair of Trustee Board	Via Phone
Sarah Robertson (SR)	Treasurer	
Vicky Graham (VG)	Hall Administrator	
Mark Warner (MW)	Scout Section Leader	
Nick Brown (NB)	Cub Section Leader	
Vanessa Mather (VM)	Beaver Section Leader	
Andy Bremner (AB)	Parent	
Sarah Bremner (SB)	Parent	
Joseph Bremner (JB)	Scout	
Arthur Graham (AG)	Explorer	
Klara Hudd (KH)	Parent	
Martin Hudd (MH)	Parent	
Andrew Robertson (AR)	Parent	

Apologies:

Name	Remarks
Graeme Dredge	

Next Meetings:

- Thursday 7/ Saturday 9 November 7:30pm/6pm SCOUT HUT – family night
- Thursday 16 January 2025 7.30pm
- Thursday 20 March 7:30pm SCOUT HUT
- Thursday 12 June 7:30pm SCOUT HUT



Treasurer's Report

The key points raised were:

- The Group has made a loss of approx. £2,500 over the last year.
- There is still a healthy buffer in the funds but it cannot sustain continued losses.
- Utility bills costs have risen.
- Maintenance costs have risen but were unavoidable (Emergency lighting, Fire Alarm system)
- Capitation rate costs to the Scouts Central Funds equates to 50% of subscription income.

The following steps were proposed to address the points above:

- Ensure that all subs are collected promptly.
- Potential increase to Subs by £5 could generate £450-£500 per year.
- Potential increase in activity costs.
- Increased promotion of Hall hire.
- Potential increase in hall hire charge.
- Identify and increase Fundraising opportunities.
- Utilise parent skills to reduce maintenance costs where possible.
- Open a High Interest Rate account

SB asked about the provision of support for families who might struggle with increased costs to prevent their children from not being able to access all activities and was assured that this was possible.



4th Salisbury (Harnham) Scout Group Annual Accounts
For financial year ending 31 March 2024

Category	Credit	Debit
Income: Bank Interest	£464.49	
Income: Beavers	£680.00	
Income: Christmas Post	£655.99	
Income: Cubs	£735.00	
Income: Hall Hire	£5,860.00	
Income: Scouts	£900.00	
Expenses: Beavers		£252.63
Expenses: Capitation		£1,662.50
Expenses: Christmas Post		£400.76
Expenses: Cleaning		£1,489.18
Expenses: Cubs		£422.91
Expenses: Electricity		£1,228.50
Expenses: Gas		£1,883.72
Expenses: Hall maintenance		£1509.63
Expenses: Insurance		£865.32
Expenses: Scouts		£847.28
Expenses: Section Shared		£879.22
Expenses: Waste		£91.15
Expenses: Water		£299.98
Expenses: Website/PR		£56.39
	£9,295.48	£11,889.17



Scout's Section Report

The number of Scouts within the Troop currently stands at 18 and we have had some additional enquiries about young people joining which will hopefully take the numbers past the 20 target. Most of our Scouts have come from advertising and word of mouth from outside the group, with a smaller number coming up from Cubs.



We currently have two warranted Leaders who are Jon Davidson and me. 2024 started with three Leaders but Chevonne moved on during the summer. However, Jon is moving to Cubs at the October half term. This leaves us with only me as a warranted Leader although not really affecting planning, it will have an impact on running the activities on the day.

I have reached out for assistance and have had some positive replies, but if anyone is able to help with the Scout Troop then please let me know.

I have to acknowledge that without the assistance of Nick Brown we would have been struggling to put on the activities at times and I would like to thank Nick his support. Also, many thanks to all the parents who have helped with activities, transportation and in particular the grounds tidy evening.

I would also like to thank the Group Committee (Trustees) for all their work in terms of managing the Group, hall bookings and managing the accounts and various issues with the hall and parking.

At the end of 2023 seven Scouts achieved the Chief Scouts Gold Award which is the highest award in the Scout section and means that these Scouts completed all of the nine challenge awards. Most of these have now moved on the Explorer Scouts and Noah is helping the Troop as a Young Leader.

The Troop has taken part in most of the District Events and in particular won the Year 8&9 trophy at the recent District Raft Races.

We also held three camps this year including the District Camp recently at Lyons Copse, a weekend camp at Harnham Scout Hall and a camp with the 3rd Salisbury at Pinsent, Winchester which included the hammock sleep out challenge.



We have had a wide range of activities over the year including:

Various hikes & chip hike,

Making Cardboard Ovens to cook Pizza,

A practice beetle drive as training to run a fundraiser,

Running stalls at the Bishops Fete in the Cathedral Close and The I Love Harnham Fete,

Tidy of hall grounds – Pruning & planting trees & bluebells and burning wood & cutting weeds.

Cooking – sausages, bacon, fried bread outside on fires. Cooking rice, sausages & beans & Cooking hot dogs on stoves & pud in a mug.

Christmas Stamp design & Christmas Post delivery, Christmas Post sorting,

Making Warhammer models,

Christmas lights walk

District Skills Day,

Calshot trip with Alderbury Scouts,

St Georges Day - Parade



Challenge evenings which included:

- Lighting as many t-light candles with one match.
- Hippo bag race,
- Compass bearing challenge
- Fire lighting,
- Get ball out of drainpipe,
- Build a tripod & carry a Scout relay.
- Paper plane challenge,
- Walk the plank
- Knots,
- Tent peg race
- Tug of war
- Rope pull game
- Home cinema evening
- Scalextric grand prix,
- Games evenings, for example Crab football, Get the keys, NSEW, rounders, frizbee
- Water meadow visit
- Easter egg hunt – Easter biscuits making competition,
- Shooting taster session & NSRA shooting course / Shooting Competition
- Skittles
- Christmas Party / Christmas biscuits / After 8 challenge,
- District Navigation Exercise – New Forest – Rain,
- Pancakes
- Build a cardboard campsite,
- Obstacle course,
- Readings at Carol Service,
- Halloween party – sparklers – pumpkin carving – wrap a mummy race,
- Expedition & presentation

Mark Warner
Scout Leader



4th Salisbury (Harnham) Cubs Annual Report.



There are currently 12 Cubs in the section which is run by Otter (Vanessa) and myself. We have also had help from Young Leaders, Arthur and Jonathan. Over the year, we have explored lots of different

areas including different types of communication; disability awareness; the country code; growing food and water safety. We have celebrated various events including Christmas, Burns Night, St George's Day and visited local landmarks such as the library, Elizabeth Gardens, and followed the Christmas Tree trail.

We have participated in several District events including the Swimming Gala; St Georges Day Parade; Scrapheap Challenge; Cycling challenge.

We are very grateful for help from Dave, Graham, Jon, and Mark over the past year to allow us carry out our variety of activities. Thank you also to all the parents for their help and support.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the following people for their help over the year, from helping out on evenings / events, etc.

- Vanessa Mather
- Jon Davidson
- Graham Dredge
- Mark Warner
- Chevonne Slade
- Cub Parents for helping with the parents rota and for their help on the cub evenings and events
- The parents on the committee for undertaking the background works to make scouting in Harnham possible. We need more to help lessen the load!
- The Scouts currently undertaking their Duke of Edinburgh awards and helping out as Young Leaders.

I hope everyone has enjoyed their time at Harnham Cubs over the past year. I wish you all a great festive period and another great year of scouting in 2024.

Nich Brown - Cub Scout Leader



4th Salisbury (Harnham) Beaver Section 2022 – 2023

The Beaver section is run by Nich Brown and Vanessa Mather. Oliver Stamp is a parent helper and David Clayton is a new trial helper. Earlier in the year Joseph Robertson and Arthur Graham were D of E assistants. Parents have also helped out as required. There are currently thirteen invested Beaver Scouts in the Colony. In the past year, Beavers have worked towards their Global Issues, Communication stage 1, Disability Awareness, Gardening and Cycling Activity Badges. We are currently working on our Safety activity badge. During the year we have made funky flowers, bug containers and Diwali t-lights. Planted seeds, looked at trees, sought stars in town, dipped with nets in Elizabeth Gardens, visited the library, and more recently cycled around Churchill Gardens. Last November, the 4th ran the New Zealand base at the District Beaver International event at DMH. We made fairy bread and coloured Maori inspired bookmarks. All attendees earned their International activity badge. In June, 11 Beavers earned their Outdoor 24 blanket badge at the District Winterslow Beaver event. Activities included building shelters, natural art, pebble painting, archery, tomahawk throwing, backwoods cooking and kite making. We wouldn't be able to do as much as we do without extra support and we would like to thank all parents, leaders, helpers, D of E volunteers and committee members who help to keep the Group going.

Vanessa Mather - Beaver Scout Leader





Administrator's Report

The total hall hire income for 2023-2024 was £6350¹. A slight improvement on the previous year. Our highest income periods were October-November and March-April. Our regular hall hire groups are:

- Art Groups (Lemontimers, Art for All, Bookbinders and Supporters of the Young Gallery a new group for the year);
- Role Players;
- Stamp Groups (Salisbury & District and a ad-hoc bookings from specialist groups);
Brownies;
- Harnham wives club.

We had a good July 2023 for children's birthday parties with every weekend booked. Going forwards we have lost one regular (children's holiday art camp due to change of career) but we have the addition of a children's music group in the summer holidays and the Harnham Childminder's Group are now weekly regulars. My concern is that children's birthday parties have dropped off sharply and we received no bookings this summer. The reason for this is unknown, maybe economic, maybe lack of space for bouncy castles or simply too much competition.

Ways to improve visibility of awareness of the hall hire are welcome and will also be investigated by **VG**. The comparative costs of hiring similar facilities in Salisbury will also be investigated to ensure we are competitive but also not missing potential income.

Vicky Graham

¹ This is different from that reported in the accounts due to differing reporting periods.