

Dringhouses Scouts Annual Review 2021/2022



Scouts
dringhousescouts.org.uk

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Welcome: A Word From Our Chairperson

The obvious major change for the year is our return to face-to-face Scouting after the strictures of the Pandemic. September saw us coming together for regular section nights and our amazing Group Camp which really cemented a renewal and return to a more normal way of Scouting. It is a fine line which leaders and Exec have had to tread to try and mitigate the risks of being together when we have many young people from different schools all mixing together. One size did not always fit all but there was a great sense of doing our best to fulfil our responsibilities to everyone's safety while delivering a really exciting programme.

A testament to the Group's success in delivering Skills for Life to our young people is that membership numbers have recovered to pre-pandemic levels and we are now having to manage our waiting list carefully to ensure we give as many people as possible the opportunity to be part of our group.

We have begun the new adventure of Scouting for early years children and due to the hard work and great research done by the working group we have opened two sections of Squirrels for children aged 4 to 6.

A Safe Scouting Premises audit has highlighted how fortunate we are to have the building and that it is being maintained well. Some areas for improvement highlighted by the audit have been carried out already but some larger capital projects remain to be considered and financed. An accessibility survey was carried out by Disability Action Yorkshire, who generously gave their time for a small donation, and we thank them. There are minor projects arising, but it was refreshing to see that they recognised our commitment to being inclusive. We remain committed to meeting individual needs as they arise. The Charities Commission Good Governance checklist has been undertaken, designed to ensure small charities are carrying out our remit diligently. There are some minor lessons to learn, and we are quickly implementing them and again many are in place already.

The pinnacle of adventurous experience is passing the rigorous selection process to be in a World Jamboree contingent and for the event 2023 in South Korea there are an unprecedented 6 young people and four adult volunteers who have been chosen to participate. They are warmly congratulated. I also wish to congratulate those who were not selected for doing their best, it was a tough process with the majority of applicants coming from our District, the organisers told us that standards were high, and it was a difficult decision to make.

Inevitably our success is due to two things: our amazing leadership team which continues to give huge amounts of time and energy to provide a programme which is engaging and fulfilling, we can't thank them enough; And of course, the wonderful and resilient young people who make up our group who are willing to learn, laugh and be challenged.

We have much to do just to keep up with this level of achievement in the coming year and I can fully recommend the exciting challenge of joining Dringhouses Scouts.

Annie Bennett, Group Chair

Group Scout Leader's Report

This year has felt different, yes we started the year with COVID restrictions in place, but as they were slowly lifted there was still a sense of trepidation among several leaders and helpers and uncertainty from the children and young people too. We had all spent so long avoiding groups of people, staying indoors and not being with others that some, if not all of us found, we were having to learn how to do it again. I'm always amazed by the resilience of the children and young people in the Group, but the return to face-to-face Scouting has also been challenging for leaders and helpers too, so well done everyone!. It's great to see happy smiling faces, to hear the laughter and the chatter of young people learning through doing and the buzz returning to the atmosphere of the Group's as a whole.

There is a greater than ever focus on adult training and processes from the national Scout Association. Happily, the Group is one of the highest in the county in terms of compliance with these measures and I'd like to thank the adult volunteers for making sure our standards are so high and for helping us to keep them there. I'd also like to thank the Group Exec and Annie Bennet and Mike Hewitt in particular for ensuring all processes and paperwork has been reviewed, completed where appropriate and completed well.

It has been great to see so many residential experiences happening again: Explorers have been particularly busy with several camps as have Cubs & Scouts. I know the Cub leaders were disappointed not to be going to France this year and while they are looking forward to the Brecon Beacons trip, they are also looking to plan another international trip, perhaps when there is more certainty about overseas travel.

I'd like to take the opportunity to welcome some new leaders to the Group, firstly the Squirrel leaders who have provided so much energy to these two new sections: Leigh, Chris, Claire, David, Louise, Rachel and Rob. Welcome also to Dan at Tuesday Scouts, Catherine at Tuesday Cubs, Aimee at Thursday Cubs, Anthony at Thursday Scouts and welcome back to Jonny at Thursday Scouts. It's also great to see that two former young leaders have joined the team as adult volunteers, having the perspectives of the younger generations as part of the team is really valuable, so welcome to Harriet and Harry too. Obviously, we cannot run the activities and events without volunteers, so please, if you think you can help out, even occasionally, do let me know, we do need you!

Looking forward to the new year I'm really optimistic. Scouts have already had their first expedition and there are more camps in the pipeline for all age groups as well as other Group District events too. We'll also be looking to continue our involvement in local community projects as well, especially if we can help to improve our local environment.

Finally, the top awards in Scouts, namely the acorn, bronze, silver, gold, platinum, diamond and Queen's Scout awards are what all Scouts should be working towards and I'm looking forward to the first celebration of those who have gained these awards in more than two years later this month, well done to everyone who is going, I'll see you there, I'll be cheering and clapping from the back!

Dave, Acting Group Scout Leader

Meet the Team

The Executive Committee (core members)

Members of the Executive Committee are the Trustees of the Group who make decisions and carry out administrative tasks to ensure that the best quality Scouting can be delivered to all young people in the Group

Annie Bennett

Group Chair



Annie became involved with the Group as a parent and when asked if she would Chair the executive committee, decided it was a post she could bring her organisational skills to and help the Group without being a uniformed member.

Jan Moor

Group Secretary



Jan was a Brownie and Guide when she was growing up and absolutely loved it. Jan was very keen her two children should have the same rewarding experiences and so both her children are in Scouting/Guiding and enjoying every moment. Jan has a daughter in the Group, who is now in Scouts, having started 6 years ago as a Beaver. Jan joined the group as a Parent Rep on the Executive Committee (particularly helping with fundraising) and Active support in Summer 2017, as she wanted to contribute to the Group. She agreed to take on the Group Secretary role earlier this year, which gives her the ability to support the working of the Group a bit more, using her business skills, in between significant travelling for her job.

John Lucas

Group Treasurer



Having seen the pleasure and benefits in being involved with Scouting from a friend, I was very pleased to find an opening with Dringhouses Group on my return to York.

Having previously been a treasurer for a Coventry based charity whilst living and working in the Midlands until a few years ago, together with undertaking a range of finance related roles professionally, I am looking forward to support the Group in maintaining robust finances to ensure the continued good work of Sections can continue to enrich and enhance the skills and experiences of our Members.

Wendy Hewitt

Group Co-Treasurer



Wendy started volunteering with the group at the 40th anniversary camp -with Debbie in the tea van. However, she has been involved since her eldest son was a Beaver Scout over 20 years ago. Wendy was the Group Secretary until last year when she agreed to start to take over the treasurer role. Wendy, who works in the church office, is also unofficial caretaker of the HQ (and washer of tea towels)!

Wendy enjoys the camaraderie of being part of a team and the ever-expanding Group. She also enjoys the challenge of learning the new treasurer role and getting to grips with spreadsheets!

The Management Team

Members of the Management Team are normally also members of the Executive Committee. The management team coordinate all Scouting activities within the Group. The Group Chair is also a part of the Management Team.

Andy Elliott

Deputy Group Scout Leader (Explorer Scouts)



Andy was a youth member of the Yorvik Explorer Unit and after returning from University decided to become part of the volunteer team at Dringhouses Scouts. You probably will not see many photographs of Andy at events as he is usually the one taking them all!

Having been an Explorer leader for about six years, Andy agreed to take on the deputy Group Scout Leader role in 2021 when the vacancy arose.

Andy's daughter has just started with Squirrels.

David Thorne

Acting Group Scout Leader



Dave started his Scouting career as a Cub Scout with the 1st Epping Ash and later 1st Holtspur Scout Groups, 'a few' years later he returned as Assistant Beaver Scout Leader with Dringhouses, transferring to be Cub Leader a year later. Since January 2021 Dave has been Acting Group Scout Leader responsible for leading the team managing the Group. Dave also holds two roles within York Ebor District (of which Dringhouses is a part): District Appointments Secretary, administering the appointment of all leaders in the District and District Executive Committee member where he makes the meetings last a bit longer than they used to.

Dave has two children in the Group, one in Scouts the other an Explorer Scout Young Leader, both of whom started in Beavers.

Katie Harvey

Deputy Group Scout Leader (Squirrels & Beaver Scouts)



Katie joined Dringhouses Scout Group in 2011 when her son joined Beavers. He is now an Explorer Scout. Katie started volunteering as an Assistant Beaver Leader and after a couple of years took up the role of Section Leader. Shortly after that Katie also became Assistant Group Scout Leader (Beavers).

Martin Eason

Group Scout Active Support Manager



Martin has been with the Group since he joined from Bishopthorpe, as a Venture Scout, in 1991. He moved from Venture Scouts to Assistant Scout Leader and then Venture Scout leader (VSL), where he remained for over 10 years. As well as VSL, he also sat on the county activities and events team, organising annual competitions and events. After a short break he became a parent helper with Bardon Scout Group in Australia. On his return to the UK in 2014 he re-joined the Group as part of the Active Support Team. In June 2019 he agreed to take on the role of Active Support Manager.

Sarah Selby

Deputy Group Scout Leader (Cub Scouts)



Sarah joined Dringhouses Scout Group in 2016 after seeing how much fun her children were having and wanting part of the action. She started as an Assistant Cub Leader and took on the role of Assistant Group Scout Leader (Cubs) last year.

Sarah is also self-appointed Badge Coordinator (not a real title) and can often be found hanging out with Friday Cubs' mascot, Loki. Her eldest is an Explorer Scout and her youngest is a Scout.

The Section Leaders

Section Leaders are responsible for co-ordinating the programme for their night and liaising with the sections before and after as appropriate, Section Leaders can be part of the Group Executive Committee if they wish to be.

Squirrel Scouts

Chris Rundle

Section Leader (Squirrel Scouts)- Monday Squirrels



Chris first became involved with Dringhouses Scouts when his eldest son joined Beavers in 2020. He joined the working group on Squirrels in 2021 to consider the options for starting this new section and then decided he should be part of launching this for real as a Section Leader.

'I enjoyed helping out as a parent on the occasional evening at Beavers, so becoming a volunteer was on the horizon. The support from group leaders, parents and squirrels has been great and I look forward to settling into the regular rhythm of activities and challenges for our young people.'

Leigh Bennett

Section Leader (Squirrel Scouts)- Friday Squirrels



Leigh is the latest member of the Bennett family to joining the group and she completes the set. Leigh started out saying she'd just help out occasionally, then that she' be able to help out more regularly but would not be able to plan any meetings or anything like that, then agreed to the assistant Squirrel leader role and now is the section leader at Friday Squirrels, at this rate she'll be in charge of the group by Christmas!

Leigh's passion and kindness are welcome in the Group and we're so pleased she can be part of our family now too (D Thorne, 7th May, as I didn't give her enough time to write her own bio).

Beaver Scouts

Beavers is for children aged five to eight years old. We have three Beaver Scout colonies in the Group.

Nicola Silke

Section Leader (Beaver Scouts)- Tuesday Beavers



Nicola joined Dringhouses Scouts in September 2018 as a Section Assistant, after being accosted on a "sunny" group camp to join Beavers. She quickly progressed to Assistant Leader in December 2018 and became Section Leader in September 2019. Nicola has been involved with the group since 2012 when her eldest daughter joined Cubs.

"I joined on a trial basis and was surprised how much I enjoyed it. It's a great feeling seeing the Beavers take part and enjoy the activities and challenges set out for them. For me it's an amazing way to be able to give something back to the local community."

Olga Iwaszkiewicz-Bogdańska

Section Leader (Beaver Scouts)- Wednesday Beavers



Olga started with the Group in February 2019, initially to help her daughter's confidence when she joined. She became an Assistant Leader with Wednesday Beavers but, when the opportunity came, it took her about a minute to decide to move to the Section Leader role.

"The idea of teaching Beavers new skills during weekly meetings and camps. And seeing how proud they are when they succeed or when they receive a badge puts the biggest smile on my face and pride in my heart. Week to week I could see how the Beavers grow in confidence".

"Inspiration from other Scout Leaders motivates me every day and confirms to me that I want to stay in The Scouts for a long time."

Katie Harvey

Section Leader (Beaver Scouts)- Friday Beavers



See the Management Team section above

Cub Scouts

The Cubs section is for children aged eight to ten and a half. We have three Cub Scout Packs in the Group.

Jane Wilson

Section Leader (Cub Scouts)- Tuesday “Romans” Cubs



Jane has been with the group since joining as a Venture Scout in 1985, in 1988 she was presented with a application form to be an Assistant Cub Scout Leader. Jane had a few years break from the Group to assist at Bishopthorpe Cub Section and was then asked to help Lidgett Grove Cub Section get back up on their feet. Jane is married to Martin whom she met through Scouting as he was a Scout Leader at St Chad's and a member of St Chad's Greys Band, so they have attended many Scouting events along with experiences with the band.

Natasha Bayston

Section Leader (Cub Scouts)- Thursday “Saxons” Cubs



Natasha has been with the group since she joined as a scout in 2011. She stayed as a young leader for Cubs when she finished scouts in 2014. In 2018 she was given an application for assistant section leader and became the assistant section leader of Thursday Cubs. In 2019 she took over from Tina as the section leader for Thursday Cubs.

David Thorne

Section Leader (Cub Scouts)- Friday “Vikings” Cubs



See the Management Team section above

Scouts

The Scout Section is for young people aged ten and a half to fourteen years old. We have three Scout Troops in the Group.

Andrew White **Section Leader (Scouts)- Tuesday “Dringhosues PC” Scouts**



Andrew has been in Scouting since being a Beaver Scout with 1st Herrington Scout Group in Sunderland where he grew-up. Soon after moving to York in 2015 to study Electronics at the University of York, he reached out to Dringhouses Scout Group to carry on his Scouting journey.

He has been with the Tuesday Scout section throughout where he has climbed the ranks to be Section Leader. He enjoys being in the great outdoors and passing on his knowledge and skills to his Scouts.

Tara Stephenson **Section Leader (Scouts)- Thursday “St Edward’s” Scouts**



“One Thursday in October 1986 I bumped into an old school friend in the pub, she was there for the quiz and wearing her uniform. We got chatting and the next Thursday I went to my first ever Cub meeting. They were making bird boxes and I didn't have a clue, I still remember the first Cub I ever spoke to and thanks to Johnny L. here I still am almost 30 years later!”

After six years of leading Cubs, where she welcomed the first girl into the Pack (possibly the first girl in Cubs in York!) Tara moved to become an assistant Venture Scout Leader, joining in with EuroVenture which took over an airfield in Paris and invaded EuroDisney, toured the Czech Republic and had many other fantastic adventures. But then we needed a female scout leader, because (guess what) the girl Cubs wanted to be Scouts! So, Tara became an Assistant Scout Leader and after a short break, she re-joined the Group.

Tara has been a part of two Cub sections, a Venture Scout Unit, two Scout Troops and a Young Leader Unit and the very first Saturday morning session of Beavers - never again!... *grin*. And in 2019 she went to the 24th World Scout Jamboree in America!.

Scott Franklin **Section Leader (Scouts)- Friday “St Helen’s” Scouts**



Scott has been at Dringhouses since 2014, having previously been Scout Leader at Heslington whilst completing his studies, and having grown-up in a Group in Swindon. He is a cliché in Scouting - his grandparents met through Scouting, his parents met through Scouting, and he went on his first camp when he was merely weeks old. Having taken up his first young-leader role at 11 with cubs, and then at 16 with Scouts, he’s a keen believer in putting young people into positions of responsibility, and teaching Patrol and Assistant Patrol Leaders how to be good leaders themselves. After a week busy teaching at All Saints School, Scott then spends his Friday nights with the 30 young people of St Helen’s Troop. He enjoys seeing his wife (Anna) and two children (Marie and Esther) on the other evenings and at weekends and looks forward to taking the girls on camp with him when they are older.

Explorer Scouts

The Explorer Scout section is for young people aged fourteen to seventeen. We are partnered with two District Explorer Scout Units (ESU). Young Leaders are also Explorer Scouts, they assist other sections within the Group. Young Leaders need not be a member of an Explorer Scout Unit and they may also be volunteering with the Group as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Mike Laing

District Section Leader (Explorer Scouts)- Tuesday "Nordic" ESU



Mike Joined Scouting as a Cub in 1989 as a member of 1st Shenfield Scout Group in Essex where he went on to be a Scout and Venture Scout before becoming a member of Essex Scouts water activities team. Mike had a 15 year break from the formalities of Scouting but continued to holiday around the world with friends made through scouting like they were on an "Explorer Belt Expedition" each time, often with a kayak or set of Skis for Luggage!

Mike returned to Scouting at the wonderful "Dringy" as assistant Cub Scout Leader in April 2018 and most recently in February 2020 moved to be Nordic Explorer Unit Leader on Monday's. Mike is looking forward to planning future adventures with the Explorers.

Andy Elliott

District Section Leader (Explorer Scouts)- Wednesday "Yorvik" ESU



See the management team section above

Iain McIntyre

District Section Leader (Explorer Scout Young Leaders)



Iain's Scouting journey began in Cumbria where he was a Cub, a Scout and then a Venture Scout circa the mid-90's. He only returned to Scouting 5 years ago as a Section Assistant with St Edwards Troop at Dringhouses. In January 2019 Iain was asked to help with the running the Young Leaders part of Dringhouses Explorer Scout section and coordinate their volunteering with the other sections (Beavers, Cubs and Scouts) and to manage to their training needs.

Iain also holds the York Ebor District role of Duke of Edinburgh's Award Coordinator. His eldest child is at present in Beavers with Dringhouses.

Iain has a daughter at Squirrels

Vacancies

Vacancies

We are currently recruiting for the following uniformed positions:



- Deputy Group Scout Leader (Scouts)
- Asst. Section Leader, Tuesday Cubs
- Asst. Section Leader, Tuesday Scouts
- Section Assistant Wednesday Beavers

Roll of Honour

Congratulations to all the adult volunteers that have been recognised for their service to Scouting this year:

 	<p>Award for Merit</p> <p>The Award for Merit is given for outstanding service of not less than 12 years and 10 years exceptionally. It implies keen, conscientious, imaginative and dedicated service over a sustained period.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charlotte McCarthy, Assistant Section Leader, Friday Beavers • Graham Stirk, Deputy Vice President
	<p>Chief Scouts Commendation for Good Service</p> <p>The Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Service is given in respect of not less than 5 years good service, which stands out. It should be regarded as the Chief Scout's recognition of the very real contribution made to the Association by the individual concerned.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Georgina Langford, Assistant Section Leader, Thursday Cubs • Iain McIntyre, Section Assistant, Monday "Nordic" Explorers • Jude Eason, Group Active Support • Jonny Fry, Assistant Leader, Tuesday Scouts • Katie Harvey, Deputy Group Scout Leader (Squirrels & Beavers)

Length of service awards are available to Members and Associate Members of the Association with eligible roles that accrue service, uniformed or not (with the exception of occasional helpers):

	<p>Chief Scout's 5 Years Service Award</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aimee Harrison, Assistant Section Leader, Thursday Cubs • Andrew White, Section Leader, Tuesday "Dringhouses" Scouts • Frances Delamere, Assistant Leader, Wednesday Explorers • Sarah Selby, Deputy Group Scout Leader (Cubs)
	<p>Chief Scout's 10 Years Service Award</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Katie Harvey, Deputy Group Scout Leader (Squirrels & Explorers) • Mauby Van Wyk, Section Assistant, Friday Cubs and Scouts • Scott Franklin, Section Leader, Friday Scouts
	<p>Chief Scout's 15 Years Service Award</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charlotte McCarthy, Assistant Section Leader, Friday Beavers • Scott Franklin, Section Leader, Friday "St Helen's" Scouts

Training is an important part of the Group's activities which often goes unseen. All adult members of the Group (except occasional helpers) are required to complete the adult training scheme, with Group Managers, Section Leaders and Assistant Leaders being awarded a wood badge after successfully completing all the required training modules. Because of its importance we also like to recognise training success in this part of the report. Leaders have three years from when they start to complete their training.



Wood Badge

Since September 1919 adult volunteers in the Scouts have been awarded the Wood Badge on the completion of their leader training. The basic badge is made up of two wooden beads worn at the end of a leather lace.

- Aimee Harrison, Assistant Section Leader, Thursday Cubs
 - Georgina Langford, Assistant Section Leader, Thursday Cubs
 - Katie Harvey, Deputy Group Scout Leader (Squirrels & Beavers)
 - Martin Eason, Group Active Support Manager
 - Matthew Evans, Assistant Section Leader, Friday Scouts
 - Sarah Selby, Assistant Section Leader, Friday Cubs
-

Group Awards

Congratulations to all of our young people receiving awards this year, all recipients will also receive a £10 voucher to spend in Go Outdoors:

BEAVERS Tuesday Wednesday Friday	Beaver of the year: Lyla Birch-Moyse Jackson Bower Max Hay
cubs Romans Saxons Vikings	Cub of the year: Amelia Auckland Megan Roberts Henry Smith
SCOUTS Dringhouses PC Troop St Edward's Troop St Helen's Troop	Scout of the year: Millie Eastman Kalina O'Brien Jake Auckland
EXPLORERS Jorvik Explorers Nordic Explorers Young Leaders	Explorer Scout of the year: Flo Phillips James Cook Lucy Fearn

The Chairman's Cup

The Chairman's Cups are awarded every year to an adult and a youth member of the Group who have made significant effort over and above what is normally expected. They also receive a £20 voucher to spend at Go Outdoors.

Chairman's Cup – Adult Volunteers: Tara Stephenson

Chairman's Cup – Youth Members: Gabriel Watson

Section Reports

The year summarised in a few pictures:



Squirrels

We were very excited to open our very first Squirrels sections at Dringhouses Scout Group this March following the recruitment of 7 adult volunteers and young leaders. We have 2 Squirrel Dreys that run on Mondays and Fridays between 5pm - 5.45pm.

Squirrels are aged 4-6 years and we have welcomed a mixture of boys and girls - a total of 16 at each night. The Squirrels have recently been busy with activities, learning new songs, listening to stories, getting to know each other and playing games together.

They have also enjoyed making their own crafty camp fire and leafy hedgehogs which earned them their first 'Get Creative' activity badge and are getting excited about receiving their neckers and being invested.

Our Squirrels were amazing at St George's Day parade showing super resilience and pride as they joined our group marching through the city following the Minster service.

Special thanks go to the volunteers who formed the working group which throughout 2021 reviewed the early years programme as it is laid out by The Scout Association and also reviewed the pilot "Hedgehogs" programme to see if there were any lessons which could be learned. Some of the working group joined as leaders when the sections started, others have returned to their regular roles, we are so grateful to this team who made it possible for children aged 4 ad 5 to join our Group. Thanks!



BEAVERS

What a wonderful year! Demand for Beaver places has continued with over 60 enquiries during last year and over 80 have stayed within the section or moved up to Cubs. Unfortunately, we still have several on a waiting list.

As we emerged from lockdown, our Beavers embraced a variety of activities celebrating being back together in our Scouting family. We enjoyed working towards our Challenge and Activity badges, learning new skills, working together and having fun.

At our meetings we learnt about our world and celebrated events including a French evening, Halloween, Bonfire Night, Christmas, Chinese New Year, Fairtrade Fortnight and Easter. We made firework pictures from coloured salt, glow in the dark milk bottle ghouls, Chinese dragons to dance with and Christmas cards for our friends and residents at Abbeyfield Care home. Beavers also attended a Christmas District party which was wonderful to share with our District friends and Leaders.



September welcomed the return of our incredible 2-night Group Camp which enabled us to once again experience life outdoors preparing our young people with skills for life.

We continued our adventures outdoors with tracking and treasure hunting, searching for stars and owls, using our phones to track constellations in the night sky, enjoying hot chocolate in the dark, cycling, litter picking, learning the green cross code, designing animals from natural materials and toasting marshmallows.

Through the support and commitment from our Leaders, Young Leaders and parents we continue to provide a fun and memorable time at all our meetings and events. Thank you to all for your support.

cubs

It's been brilliant to be back face-to-face and experience "normal" again this year. We're so proud of the Cubs' resilience over the last two years; you've bounced back from online meetings and are as loud as ever! You've social-distanced when asked and didn't appear phased by leaders' mask wearing. Thank you all.

As well as normal section nights, we've been able to enjoy camping again. We kicked it off with Group Camp in September, and we enjoyed a Pack Holiday to our favourite indoor site, Thornthwaite, in March. We're looking forward to County Camp in June, which we haven't been on since 2018, and Group Camp again in July. Preparations are well underway for our trip to the Brecon Beacons in August – our postponed trip to France that should have taken place in 2021 has had to be reimagined slightly, but at least we're still visiting another country!

As well as getting our three packs together for camps and events, we've also been able to meet up with our fellow Cubs across the district. The Hergarth Trophy returned after a two-year hiatus, and we enjoyed Jambowlree last month – well done to one of our teams, Team Chicken Nugget, for winning and Amelie for best individual score! We had a great turn out for St George's Day two weeks ago, it was brilliant to be out marching and to see all the flags flying once more. District are always planning events so we look forward to joining in with more soon.

Thank you again Cubs and parents for all your support and for always being so fab. We're looking forward to another great year of Cub Scouting



SCOUTS



Released from captivity (aka pandemic lockdowns) Scouts are now clearly visible in the wild, their natural habitat being muddy puddles, ditches, tree trunks, tree branches and open fields. In short freedom from restrictions is celebrated.

Celebrations began with camping and Group camp was a brilliant return to get us warmed up to the great outdoors again. Sepaking of warm... Wintercamp was disappointing for it's lack of snow, but other than that it was excellent and enjoyed by all. There have also been several overnight expeditions and bivvys.

Envents have also been very popular, with the Clip and Climb seeing use by all nights, especially the timed climb, not that Scouts are competitive of course!

It's also good to be able to help out in our community and clearing the paths and removing litter in Acomb wood was a great opportunity to do just that

We're all looking forward to the upcoming summer term's programme and Group Camp and the Ignite Camp in September. 2022/3 promises to be a great year and we're all looking forward to it. We're very happy to welcome Jonny back to Thursday Scouts and are sorry to see Dan leaving Tuesday Scouts later this term.

If you're willing then why not join us as we're always looking for more volunteers to help the Scouts contine their adventures!

EXPLORERS

This past year has been a fantastic year for Explorers at Dringhouses, through the fantastic support of the volunteer team we have managed to achieve so much in the past 12 months.

Last summer we had planned to head to Wales for a week camp, however restrictions meant this had to be changed last minute to a camp closer to home, but what a camp it was! The week included kayaking, camp fires, cycling, walking, trains, dancing, lots of food, jumping off 8 metre high cliffs and so much more! This summer we are heading to Wales to complete the camp that was planed!



The Explorers also attended Group camp and provided great assistance to the other sections over the weekend. We were asked to build the campfire, apparently it was too big, we're not so sure!

Later in 2021 came Escape, the 24 hour wide game organised by North Yorkshire Scouts for Explorers. All those that took part had a fantastic time and we are proud to say that the winning team were from Dringhouses Explorers! Well done!



On the weekly meetings we have been doing a range of activities from cooking, clip 'n' climb, T-Shirt tie dyeing, lego & K'nex engineering, ghost tours, fire lighting and even some meditation.

Thank you to all our young people and volunteers for a great year, we are very much looking forward to what the next 12 months will bring for Explorers at Dringhouses.

As the name suggests, Scout Active Support (SAS) is the covert part of the Dringhouses team, utilising the skills, knowledge and enthusiasm of ex leaders and parents to support the valuable work undertaken by our uniformed volunteers, to ensure the group and all the activities undertaken are always a great success. So, what did we get up to this year?

The largest activity was a little Group Camp we ran in September at Bradley Wood. It was fantastic to see everyone back, full of energy and a desire to have a great weekend, throwing themselves into every activity and making new friends.



Behind the scenes the SAS team were absolute heroes, turning up at the site on Thursday and Friday to help erect tents and prepare the site for our young people. Others helped at the departure point, while our catering team locked themselves away preparing a fantastic selection of freshly cooked and nutritious food. A huge thank-you goes to all who help: We couldn't do it without you!

Other activities have included:

- **HQ Working Bee** - Painting, clearing out and changing lights in the HQ
- **Minibus driving** - helping out on section nights and camps by driving the busses
- **Section nights** - an extra pair of hands and in some cases sharing skills and knowledge
- **Camp Equipment** - Helping the QM with camping equipment, repairs etc.
- **St Georges Day** - Helping set up, marshalling and general support

The SAS team is always looking for new team members from the parents and friends community, so if you would like to help, but can not commit to a regular role, come and join us. You can do as much or little as you like and don't need to commit to anything more than a few online training videos. For more information please contact martin.eason@dringhousescouts.org.uk.

Statutory Reports

For year ending March 2022



Trustees' Annual Report

From 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022

Reference and administration details

Registered charity number:	1064151
Registered number with Scout Association:	37243
Charity's contact address:	Scout HQ, St Edward The Confessor Church, Tadcaster Road, Dringhouses, YORK, YO24 1QG

Trustees

Group executive committee

Acting Group Scout Leader (GSL)	David Thorne	Chairperson	Annie Bennett
Secretary	Jan Moor	Treasurer	John Lucas/ Wendy Hewitt
Deputy GSL Beavers	Katie Harvey	Deputy GSL Cubs	Sarah Selby part year
Deputy GSL Explorers	Max Butler/Andy Elliott Part Year	Beaver Section Leader	Nicola Silke
Beaver Section Leader	Olga Iwaszkiewicz- Bogdanska	Cub Section Leader	Jane Wilson
Scout Section Leader	Tara Stephenson	Scout Section Leader	Andrew White part year
Scout Section Leader	Jonny Fry (part year)	Young Leader Scheme Leader	Iain McIntyre
Active Support Leader	Martin Eason	Sponsoring Authority Rep	Debbie Paterson
Parent Rep Beavers	Susan Rundle part year	Parent Rep Cubs	Justin Moss
Parent Rep Scouts	Kerry Thompson	Safety Officer	Mike Hewitt
Training Officer	Tina Brill	Keeper of the Fabric	Alan Furby

Structure, governance and management

The Group is set up under The Scout Association's Royal Charter which gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association. The Group is run according to Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR) which contains guidance from The Scout Association. We have a constitution which is based on the model outlined in POR but adapted to our specific needs. Management of the Scouting provision is outlined in the Group Development Plan.

The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the POR. The Group is managed by the Group Scout Leader supported by the Group Executive Committee. The Group Executive Committee:

- Maintains Group Property
- Administers the Group's finances, including fundraising
- Is responsible for risk assessments and Insurance
- Runs Group public occasions
- Assists with recruitment of leaders and other adult support
- Appoints any sub-groups that may be required.

Risk and internal control

The risks associated with running a scout group are taken seriously by the Group Executive Committee and a Safety Officer is in place to help mitigate those. The most serious to the Groups continued success have been identified as follows:

Damage to the building, property and equipment. The Group would ask neighbouring organisations such as the church and other scout groups for the use of buildings, property and equipment. The Group also comprehensively insures our buildings and their contents.

Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members. The Group contributes to The Scout Association's national accident insurance policy through capitation fees paid annually and takes out insurance to cover occasional helpers. Risk assessments are undertaken, in line with POR, before all activities and are approved as outlined therein.

Reduced income from fundraising. The Group is reliant upon income from subscriptions and fundraising. In the absence of fund-raising income, the Committee would raise the level of subscriptions to increase income and would also institute cost cutting measures.

Reduction or loss of leaders. The group is totally reliant on volunteers to run and administer the activities of the group. We are constantly seeking and recruiting new leaders. However, if there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level and recruitment was unsuccessful then there the number of sections would have to be reduced.

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document.

As stated in POR:

Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

Scouting takes place when young people, in partnership with adults, work together based on the values of Scouting and:

- enjoy what they are doing and have fun
- take part in activities indoors and outdoors
- learn by doing
- share in spiritual reflection
- take responsibility and make choices
- undertake new and challenging activities
- make and live by their Promise.

In planning our activities to meet the Scout Association's objectives, we also keep in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Achievements and performance.

With the addition of Squirrels for 4- to 6-year-olds we now run 13 full groups each week during term time.

This year we have moved from operating within the confines of The Covid-19 pandemic with occasional online meetings and some outdoors to a full face to face programme.

Our first face to face group camp took place in September with a record number of attendees. The majority of our members continue to work towards their bronze, silver, gold, platinum and diamond Chief Scout awards with some older members working towards the Queens Scout Award.

There have been 9 camps held this year, 1 Cub, 2 Scouts, 1 joint Scout/Explorers and 4 Explorer only camps).

We resumed community activity with a clean-up session disposing of litter and clearing paths at Acomb Wood in November.

The group youth membership number at 31st March was 265.

Financial review

After a year where we cut some of our costs to protect our cash flow, this year the majority of our outgoings returned to more normal levels and spending on activities by the sections began to regained momentum during the final two terms.

The Subscriptions paid by our Members held up well and funds paid towards specific Camps and Activities grew almost five fold underlining the returning to more normality when compared with last year. In addition, we received a small amount of income from fundraising whilst income from grants was nil.

Our largest expenditure was on Camps and Activities which grew almost three-fold from last year and we also took the opportunity of a bulk purchase discount on neckers which will provide savings in future years. We did not have any large items of expenditure during the year.

Reserves policy

The Group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the group should income and fundraising activities fall short. The Group Executive Committee considers that the group should hold a sum of £500 in reserve as well as the two sinking funds described below.

At the end of March 2022, the minibus fund was £14,130 (2021; £11,130) and the premises fund was £2,200 (2021; £1,200). Each year, we will set aside: £1,000 for premises expenses, we expect to have to replace our heating in the near future, £3,000 for the minibus fund so that we have sufficient cash balances to replace the buses when they are too old to be used. The Reserves Policy is reviewed annually.

We also have grant funding that we hold in a restricted fund. At the end of the year, this totalled £932 (2021; £2,268) and is to be spent on tents, camping equipment, first aid kits and hardship cases.

Our year-end cash balance is £31,602 (2021; £23,015) which is greater than the sinking funds plus the unspent grants, meaning that the Group is operating within its reserves.

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Annie Bennett, **Group Chair**

John Lucas **Group Treasurer**

Financial Summary

For the Period from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020

Receipts and payments

All amounts shown in GBP	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Last year
	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22	2020/21
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Donations, legacies and similar income				
Membership subscriptions	28,469		28,469	22,905
less: membership subscriptions paid to National/County/Area and District	-13,108		-13,108	-11,706
Net membership subscriptions retained	15,362	0	15,362	11,199
Gift aid	0		0	4,992
Sub total	15,362	0	15,362	16,191
Grants and donations				
Grants received	0	0	0	1,883
Sub total	0	0	0	3,488
Fundraising (gross)				
Fundraising activities	609		609	1,883
Sub total	609	0	609	1,883
Activities				
Camps and activities	25,190		25,190	5,689
Minibus hirings	498		498	0
Sub total	25,687	0	25,687	5,689
Interest	0	0	0	0
Property rent income	495	0	495	0
Sub total	495	0	495	0
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	23
Total receipts	42,153	0	42,153	23,823

Payments	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Last Year
	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22	2020/21
Camps	-18,924	-114	-19,039	-6,422
Section activities	-1,279	0	-1,279	-142
Ground rent, fuel, insurance, repairs and renewals	-3,839	0	-3,839	-3,149
Equipment	-542	-301	-843	-2,648
Minibus expenses	-3,998	0	-3,998	-1,639
Badges, neckers and uniform	-3,104	0	-3,104	-645
Administration	-1,285	0	-1,285	-1,715
Sub total	-32,970	-415	-33,386	-16,360
Fundraising expenses	0	-162	-162	0
Sub total	0	-162	-162	0
Miscellaneous	-19	0	-19	-19
Total payments	-32,989	-577	-33,566	-16,379
Net of receipts/(payments)	9,164	-577	8,587	7,444
Transfers between funds	759.38	-759	0	0
Cash funds last year end	20,747	2,268	23,015	15,571
Cash funds this year end	30,670	932	31,602	23,015

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	31/03/2022	31/03/2022	31/03/2022	31/03/2022
	£	£	£	£
Cash funds				
Current account	30,670	932	31,602	23,015
Virgin Money	0	0	0	0
Total	30,670	932	31,602	23,015
Other assets	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	
	31/03/2022	31/03/2022	31/03/2022	31/03/2022
	£	£		£
Motor vehicles	-	-	-	-
Equipment etc	-	-	-	-

The above receipts and payments accounts and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by

Annie Bennett, **Group Chair**

John Lucas, **Group Treasurer**



Scouts

Dringhouses York

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