

Annual Report 2017 to 2018

Welcome to the Annual General Meeting and BBQ and thank you for attending this evening. This report summarises the previous year of the Scout Group and looks forward to the future.

The section reports will provide reminders of what the sections have done this year, but I would just like to mention some events that we attended as a group:

- St. George's Day Parade and Service in April
- Bristol South Jamboree (BSJ18) at Woodhouse Park in May
- Whitchurch Royal British Legion Remembrance Sunday in November

Improvements to the building and grounds have continued, with a new kitchen, re-arrangement of the toilets and a wheelchair accessible toilet with shower. We have tidied and cleared the outside space over the last few weeks and created a wood pile with axe work area and moved the fire area. Thank you to all those involved, who gave up their valuable time to help the transformation. Future work will include renewing the gutters, improving the external lighting, repainting the outside of the building and providing wheelchair access to the front door.

The numbers of Beavers and Cubs has continued to increase to levels that are not manageable in one section. However, due to the incredible generosity of Carol Ferris, we have recently started a second Beaver Colony which she is running on Thursday evening before the existing colony meets.

We already have more Cubs that we want in a single pack, and with the future extra numbers who will come up from the two Beaver Colonies; we need to start a second pack, which will meet on Wednesday evenings. We already have a few volunteers to help, but we could really do with a few more. Please speak with Carol Mole, Tanya or me if you help.

The Scout Group will celebrate its 60th Birthday in February 2019. We would like to arrange some events to celebrate this major milestone, probably a fun day / party in February and a Group Camp in the spring / summer; so watch out for dates!! I will also be challenging each section to do something memorable in the theme of 60 during 2019!

The 'Pegasus' Explorer Scout Unit (for 14 to 18-year olds) is now up and running. The Unit is open to everyone (between 14 and 18 years old). The unit is not part of the group as Explorers are a District provision, but we continue to have close affiliation to it as its meetings are held in our Headquarters and Stan (Richard Staniland) is the Explorer Scout Leader.

Thank you to all the volunteers who have given up their time over the last year; and as I think it is important to recognise the time and wisdom that they give to the group, they are:

Beavers – Carol Ferris, Sarah Hollow, Becky Warren & Penny Herrington;

Cubs – Carol Mole & Tanya Bracey;

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Scouts – Alan Price, Justin Underhill, Paul Carter, Kyle Freethy, Amy Gill, Lee Pearce & Stuart Mole;

Fundraising – Tanya Bracey & Amy Gill;

Group Committee – Chris Watts, Beverly Easton, Andy Bracey & Ian Ferris;

Building works - many have helped, but I would like to single out Rob Bigwood for his help with the accessible toilet and Lee Pearce for, well only he knows how many hours he has spent at the HQ working on the kitchen and the accessible toilet!

We also have several Young Leaders (who are Explorers) and make a valuable contribution to the section and the group.

Thank you all!

I would just like to record my thanks to Stan for all the great times that the Cubs had whilst he was Akela during the last few years, (and with the Beavers before that). I would also like to record my thanks to Alan for his time as Scout Leader, and for all the great activities that the scouts were able to experience. I would also like to thank Justin Underhill for taking over as from Alan as Scout Leader. Unfortunately, the Chair of the Group Executive, Chris Watts, has resigned due to his ongoing health issues. Thanks to Chris for his support over the past couple of years. Finally, I would like to thank Beverley Easton for undertaking the very challenging role of Group Treasurer for the last few years, and Andy Bracey for taking the role on now!!

We are always on the lookout for new volunteers in the group; working with the young people or providing support in the background. It is always very rewarding, fun and we can find ways if you can't help every week. Not every role involves working with directly with the Beavers, Cubs & Scouts. Training is available for many roles. Please have a think about the ways that you can support our young people to get the most from the Scouting Adventure; and chat with any of the leaders or me.

**Yours in Scouting
Andy Dyer
Group Scout Leader**

BEAVERS [Facebook: 148th Stockwood Beavers](#)

The Beavers have had a busy and very full year. Our numbers are always steady. The majority of Beavers will stay with us until their 8th birthday. We have a full waiting list for the coming year but have addressed the issue of our current waiting list.

Since the last AGM there have been some changes within Beavers with Becky Warren and Emily Pring have moved on from the Beaver group. I would like to thank them for their help and support over the last year and wish them all the best in the future. I have also had a surprise visit from our District Commissioner who awarded me with my wood badge as I ended my training period.

I would like to thank the following people for taking a more active role; Sarah Mamo for her help as my assistant and Luke Barrett, without their support Beavers could not run.

Our full waiting list has prompted us to set up a 2nd Beaver group on the 21st June 2018. Thanks to Penny Herrington who has agreed to be my assistant along with parent help from Helen Osborne, Katie Frankz, and Paula Lane. The group is small, so we are able to support children with special needs who would benefit from a small group setting. Both groups will follow the same programme.

In the last year Beavers have worked towards gaining all their challenge badges and activity badges. Since our last AGM I have given out 160 badges to the Beavers. Some of the badges they have gained are Hikes, Camping craft, Explore, First aid badges. Over the next few months we will be concentrating on completing challenge badges to enable our older Beavers to gain their Bronze Chief Scout award, the highest award Beavers can earn. As Leaders we are keen for each Beaver within the group to have the opportunity to earn this badge.

We have had an eventful year over the past 12 months; here is a summary of what we have done. In November we all went tobogganing at the Mendip Activity Centre. This was a lovely way to start our Christmas celebrations. At Easter we had an Easter egg hunt where the Beavers had to use a map to find the clues around Stockwood. We also helped with a local community litter pick. In May, 8 of our Beavers attended the BSJ18. They stayed for 2 night in tents and took part in lots of different activities from completing low ropes, obstacle course, talking on the radio, cooking on fire and much more. They were all brilliant. In June we arranged a hike and visit to Horseworld. The Beavers had to make their own pack lunch and hiked over to explore Horseworld. During our visit we enjoyed a very bumpy tractor ride.

Beavers have taken part in the Remembrance Day parade and march from the British Legion in Whitchurch to St Nicholas Church, as well the recent St Georges Day parade held at St Mary Redcliffe Church in the centre of Bristol.

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We have a Facebook page which is a great way of passing on information between the group as well as showing activities we have been doing. Please send a request to [148th Stockwood Beaver Group](#) if you wish to be a member.

We are looking forward to future events especially the 60th birthday of the group.

Beaver meetings are fun, loud and sometime chaotic; however the main aim of Beavers is to have FUN! as well as learning a thing or two along the way.

Finally, I would like to thank all the parents who have supported the Beavers by bring them along each week and especially the parents who have helped us during session, without your help we would not be able to run these exciting activities.

Carol Ferris

Beaver Leader

CUBS [Facebook: 148th Stockwood Cubs](#)

During the past year the pack said goodbye to Richard Staniland (Stan) who left to start the Pegasus Explorer Scout Unit.

Our new Akela is Carol Mole, supported by Tanya Bracey as our new Assistant Cub Scout Leader (Baloo).

During the last year we have taken part in activities such sailing, canoeing, fire lighting, backwoods cooking, shelter building in the open space, and a trip to the Fire Station.

We have also joined with the Scouts for a hike and camp at Chelwood, with the Beavers to visit Bristol Zoo and the group to attend the Bristol South Jamboree camp during May with other groups from our district.

346 badges were awarded between the last AGM (16th Sept 2017) and 1st Sept 2018, with 61 badges that still need to be given out. They were earned over the summer, the overnight camp and others from cubs not being there when badges handed out. There have also been five silver awards earned this year too. This is a grand total of 407 badges!

We continue to want all Cubs to achieve their Silver Chief Scouts Award, and to make sure that all the Cubs have the most wonderful time in the pack and learn new things before they go up to Scouts.

I would like to say thank you to Stan for his time as Akela, and for the help and support he has provided to us since he moved on. I would also like to thank Tanya who started as a parent helper and became a leader when Stan left. If it was not for her, we wouldn't have been able to do many of the great activities that we have done this year.

The Cub Pack is doing so well that we now must open another pack to provide space for all the Cubs, but we will continue to need the parents help to make it successful.

Carol Mole (Akela)

SCOUTS [Facebook: 148th Bristol \(1st Stockwood\) Scouts Group](#)

Chelwood Camp - Yet another brilliant camp, the scouts walked from Norton Malreward to the campsite via several checkpoints. The scouts then had to make shelter for the night and prepare rabbit for their evening meal.

Shooting Competition - Another excellent competition. Well done to everyone who entered.

Jamboree Over The Air/Jamboree On The Internet JOTA/JOTI - Our first visit to this event held at Woodhouse Park. We spent the morning doing Jamboree related activities and the afternoon was spend doing Woodhouse activities.

Remembrance Parade - Thank you to everyone who attended this important event.

SCUBA - You can tell that Scouts come from Beavers they all dive as though it was second nature.

Golf - We apologise again to Stockwood Vale Golf course for gate crashing their quiet driving range session :)

Expedition and Chelwood camp - A massive congratulations to the four PLs who undertook their Expedition challenge, with a little bit of guidance from Lee. With the PLs off playing, it was time for APLs to step up to the plate and show us how well they could take over command, and what a brilliant job they all did.

Nerf Gun Battle - I enjoy watching the battle plans go to pot when someone shouts GO.

St Georges Day Parade - Thanks again for all those who attended. It really is impressive seeing so many scouts from Bristol South parading to St Mary Redcliffe Church.

Bristol South Jamboree - It was great to watch the scouts taking part in activities that they are obviously very comfortable doing.

Apple Store - The session was soooo much better than I had expected, really well organised and everyone got a free t-shirt. Thanks Lee for organising.

Sailing - You really really need to sign up to do the Level 1 sailing course (I had so many comments from the other instructors about how good the scouts sail and how much fun they (the instructors) had)!

Water regatta - Canoeing, sailing, dragon boating and rowing all in one day. Another amazing experience.

Orienteering - A quick practise run for the Strategy camp

Strategy camp - This is a walking and teamwork competition near Cirencester. We entered three teams, carefully named A, B & C

Pioneering Monkey Bridge - The PLs and APLs constructed a rope bridge from scratch.

Survival ish camp - The Scouts slept the weekend in makeshift shelters and cooked on an open fire all weekend.

Caving -We had another trip down Goatchurch Cavern on/under the Mendips.

Chamboree Summer Camp - An Absolutely amazing jamboree in the middle of Cheshire. Bear Grylls dropped in (again). The scouts worked really well together

Number of badges earned during last academic year 226, Well done everyone.

Leaders - Of course none of this would be possible without the support of the leaders. A massive thanks to Paul, Kyle, Amy, Lee and Stuart.

Alan Price

FUNDRAISING

2017: Events since last AGM

AGM & BBQ	£160.81
Family Quiz Night	£145.50
Christmas Tree Sales	£267.40
Christmas Film Night	£ 94.00
Total:	£506.90

2018: Till present

Film Night	£53.50
BTR Clothes Recycling	£ 82.00
Easter Egg Hunt	£ 57.50
Easter Film Nights	£ 38.50
Family BBQ	£223.12
Summer Bidding wall	£ 55.00
Total:	£509.62

2017-2018 total raised since last AGM: £1016.52

Other donations:

All these have been/are to be used on various aspects of the scout HQ and monies are held within group accounts.

CO OP community funding (round 2)	£2,476.56
Bellway Homes	£ 500.00
CAF Charity donation	£4,000.00

Overall total: £7,993.08

The current Co-op Community Fund round is still ongoing, if you aren't a member yet please sign up. We are up to £1,495.18 as of 25th September, which we hope will increase more by the end of November. The money donated previously by Co-op has been used to refit the kitchen and more recently has gone towards the accessible toilet.

Any money we've raised has been a massive help to the scout group as a whole. Earlier in the year we purchased a huge event shelter which had its first outing at BSJ18, then more recently we bought sixty new stackable chairs as a lot of the old chairs wobbled and they took up way too much space.

Over the last year our roles as fundraisers have changed slightly, with Amy becoming more involved with the Scouts section and work hours increasing. While Tanya became assistant Cub leader and will soon be swapping as leader of our new cub pack. The time we have to devote to fundraising events has become more limited so unfortunately, we have had to reduce the number of events and activities we run.

Ideally, we would love for a few parents, no matter what section, to take on some of the role and organise events either themselves for the group or alongside us. We will happily support you. If anyone's interested in helping or just wants to give it a go please let us know.

Thank you to all parents & grandparents that have supported us throughout the year, we really appreciate your help!

Here's to the next year and raising more vital funds for Stockwood Scout group which will hopefully help us continue to improve life at the hut and much more.....

On behalf of the fundraising team thank you,

Tanya Bracey & Amy Gill