



ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23

1st Upton St Leonards Scout Group



The Scout Group is an educational charity, excepted from registration with the
Charity Commission

Registered with the Scout Association – unit number 10016255

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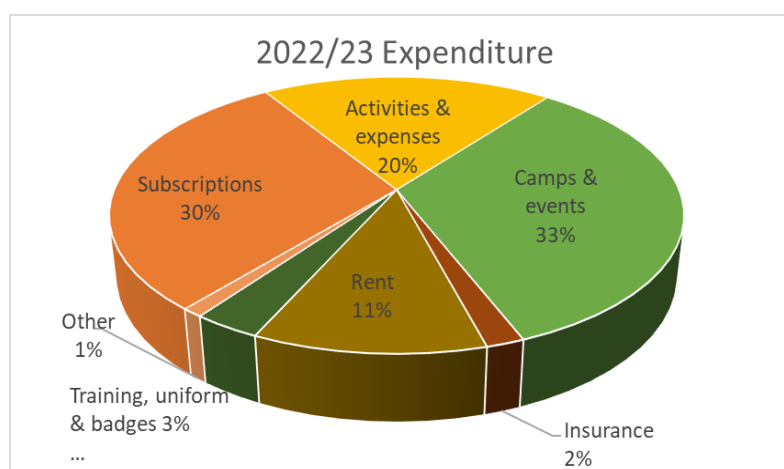
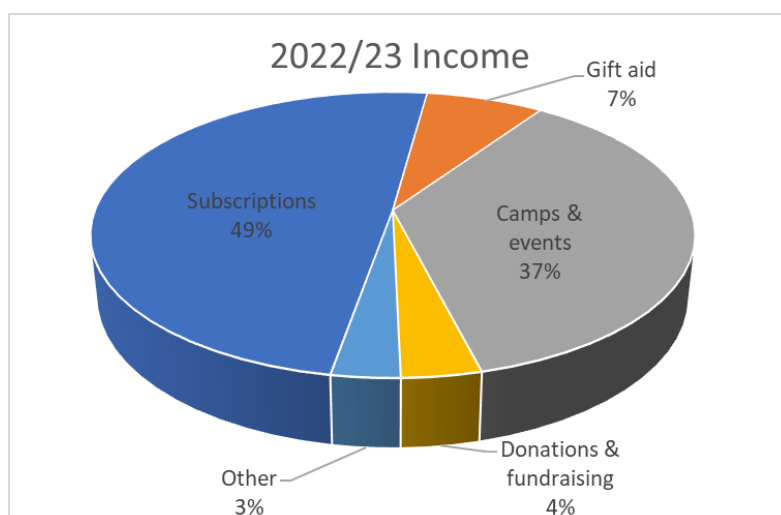
Our Year on a Page

119 Youth Members¹

24 Leaders, Assistants & Young Leaders¹

9 Residential Experiences²

1406 Badges Awarded²



1. Membership figures as of 31 January 2023 – Youth Members up 19 on the previous year. Leaders, Assistants & Young Leaders up 7.
2. During the year 1.4.22 - 31.3.23

Group Overview

This report is officially in respect of the financial year from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023 when we were finally able to put lockdown and social distancing behind us and return to a full year of Scout activities. This has definitely been the case as all sections have put together a busy programme of weekly and other activities resulting in increasing numbers of members joining and remaining with the Group.

Now that we have a properly functioning Executive Committee (shortly to be re-named the Trustee Board) we have been able to produce our Group Plan in which we have identified our goals and priorities for the years ahead in support of our Mission to **support amazing leaders to deliver an inspiring programme and prepare more young people with skills for life**. A full copy of the Plan is available on request.

One of the first objectives of our Plan was to open a Squirrel Scout Drey for 4 and 5 year olds. We were pleased to achieve this in February when we welcomed 13 children who were keen to be invested as our first Squirrels supported by three enthusiastic leaders and a Young Leader. We have since added 5 more children to the Drey and we will soon see the first Squirrels become Beavers as they celebrate their sixth birthdays. Thanks to our former treasurer, Laura, we were fortunate to receive a grant of £500 from Lloyds Bank which covered the cost of setting up the Squirrel Drey including the cost of their own flag which they proudly carried at the St George's Day parade in April.

Our annual accounts are set out in the format prescribed for small charities like ours by the Charity Commission and have been checked by our Independent Examiner. Once again, they show that we have run a deficit over the year. This was principally due to the significant increase in the subscriptions we must pay to our HQ, County and District, higher insurance costs and the cost of providing weekly activities for increasing numbers of young people. Another of the objectives in our Plan is to form a Fundraising and Social committee to help raise additional funds to support our activities. We now have a small group of keen fundraisers whose first event, on the Coronation bank holiday, was a great success raising over £177. They are planning further events during the coming year which we hope you will enjoy supporting.

Once again, we would like to thank all of our volunteer leaders, helpers and trustees who have worked so hard to plan and deliver excellent programmes for our young people throughout the year. We look forward to another year of exciting Scouting in the coming twelve months.

Matt Dymock

Chair

Paul D. Trott

Group Scout Leader

Squirrels

Our new Squirrel Drey opened at February half term with 13 children. They quickly obtained their distinctive red uniforms and made their Squirrel Promise at the last session before Easter. Their meetings offer a mix of games, stories, craft and other activities one of the most popular being making their own dens in pop up tents in the hall.

Five more children joined after Easter and during the summer term the Squirrels enjoyed growing sunflowers from seed, Coronation related activities, science experiments, a session at the Climbing Warehouse, fire-lighting at Cranham and a picnic on Crickley Hill. Congratulations to Isabel, Rishona, Sophie and Emma on getting the Drey started so successfully.



As the numbers have grown, we were also pleased to recruit Libby as an additional leader and we hope to increase to 24 Squirrels before too long. It has been wonderful to see how the children have quickly learned to work together and got into the routine of their weekly meetings, looking forward to earning their badges as they work towards the Chief Scout's Acorn Award.

We look forward to welcoming more children into our youngest section and support them as they progress into Beavers and beyond.

BEAVERS

The Beaver Colonies resumed their regular programme of activities following the disruption of the pandemic, quickly increasing their numbers back to pre-pandemic levels.



In the summer they took part in pond dipping, their regular chip shop walk and water night plus a visit to Gloucester Ski Centre and a sleepover at Shurdington Village Hall. In the autumn they enjoyed a trip down the Gloucester – Sharpness Canal dressed as pirates, a visit to the fire station and a session at Ninja Warriors while the spring term concluded with a special visit to Gloucester Museum to explore the underground remains of the City's Roman walls.

During the year in question 30 new Beaver Scouts were invested and the Beavers earned no less than 233 Challenge badges and 478 Activity badges plus 30 Chief Scout's Bronze Awards.



Linda continues to lead both Colonies and has been supported on Wednesdays by Ally and Karl and on Fridays by Marc, Rob and Kate and has recently been joined by Derrick, Sherri and Sharlene. We are also pleased to have had the help of Young Leaders, Jacob and Harry, and a rota of parents whose help is much appreciated.

cubs

Both Cub packs have enjoyed a busy year of activities including in the summer term pottery painting, fire lighting, a session at the Climbing Warehouse, and making and flying kites. In the autumn they worked on their “You Shape” badges together with their Communicator, Scientist and Fire Safety badges plus a very special “Tech Day” when the Cubs were able to experiment with a range of computers and robots. In the spring the Cubs explored issues around disability while enjoying pancake day and working on their Astronomer Badge.



In June a small group of Cubs camped at “Evolution” in Cirencester Park, the first time Cubs had been invited to take part in this event, while in July some of the older Cubs camped at Cranham to complete their Outdoor Challenge Badges.



In September 16 Cubs and two Young Leaders camped at Rhydd Covert near Kidderminster and enjoyed a day at the West Midlands Safari Park while in January a special indoor sleepover for first time campers was held at Cranham.

The Cubs also earned a stack of badges including 83 Challenge badges and 440 Activity badges while Milo Dymock, Radley-Ray Thomas, Zac McKenzie and Benjamin Thurston gained their Chief Scout's Silver Awards.

Rosemary continues to lead both Packs and has been supported by Paul, Rishona, Teresa, Ally and Sarah and our Young Leaders Kyle, Jamie-Lee, Daniel and Naomi. We are very grateful to all our leaders and helpers for their assistance, support and ideas.

SCOUTS

The Scout Troop continues to grow and is now at its largest for nine years. The Scouts take an active part in planning their programme and nominating their Patrol Leaders and Assistant Patrol Leaders.



During summer 2022 they tried leatherwork and Warhammer, caving and sketching while in the autumn they updated their first aid skills, improved their disability awareness, met the police dogs and made a mess with clay! During the spring term the Scouts brushed up on their camping knowledge, took part in the Cotswold Marathon (successfully defending their position as winners of the Bronze Section) and surveyed the local chip shops.

Outdoor skills were refined at the Outdoor Challenge camp at Parkend in the Forest of Dean in May while the following month the Scouts attended “Strategy” which was a very different camping experience, not least because of some very challenging weather. In the autumn term some of the Scouts tried narrow boating on the canals of Warwickshire and in March they had the opportunity to enjoy a very muddy weekend camp at Penllergaer near Swansea.

Badges in the Scout Troop are much harder to come by but that hasn't prevented the Scouts earning 39 Challenge badges and 98 Activity badges during the year with Peter Blake, Zac McKenzie and Benjamin Mellor achieving 5 Hikes Away, Daniel Amos, Benjamin and Jamie-Lee Lawrence earning 20 Nights Away and Joseph Klassen gaining Level 5 for “time on the water”. Daniel Amos also successfully completed his Chief Scout's Gold Award which is a fantastic achievement.

Rosemary, in addition to running the Cub Packs, also leads the Scout Troop assisted by John and Colin. With a growing number of Scouts that remains a challenge and they hope to recruit some more help shortly.

1st Upton St Leonards – Aims and Support

Our aims for the year ahead are:



- **To increase the number of young people and volunteers**
- **To review finances to allow the Group to better plan for its future development**
- **To be an integral part of the local community through weekly meetings, more social events and improved communications**
- **To review the Group's equipment to ensure it meets the needs of our chosen programme**

We are grateful for all of the support that you give to us.

In recent years the Group has not done any significant fundraising but as can be seen from the accounts, every penny does count. There are some simple ways that you could help with fundraising, at little or no cost, which really do make a difference

- Gift Aid monthly subs payments
- Recycling used printer cartridges
- Easyfundraising scheme
- Gloucester Lottery

Scouts could not run without the efforts of the voluntary leaders, assistants and helpers. If you would like more information on getting involved as a leader or a member of one of our committees, please contact the Group Chair, Matt Dymock

Email: matt@uptonscouts.org.uk

Website: www.uptonscouts.org.uk

1ST UPTON ST LEONARDS SCOUT GROUP

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

1ST UPTON ST LEONARDS SCOUT GROUP TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

Objectives

The principal objective of the group continued to be that of the continued promotion of scouting.

Officers and trustees

The officers and trustees who held office during the year are as follows:

R. Amos	Secretary
L. Atkinson	
M. Blake	
M. Dymock	Chair (from 09.10.2022)
S. Mackenzie	
C. Patterson	(resigned 09.10.2022)
C. Sharpe	Treasurer
T. Siddall	
R. Steward	
P. Trott	GSL & Acting Chair (until 09.10.2022)
R. Trott	

The Group is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Groups.

Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation & Rules of The Scout Association.

The accounts have been drawn up on the receipts and payments basis which is consistent with the previous year.

Approved by the trustees on and signed on their behalf by

M. Dymock
Chair

C. Sharpe
Treasurer

Date

Date

1ST UPTON ST LEONARDS SCOUT GROUP INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE 1ST UPTON ST LEONARDS SCOUT GROUP

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of 1st Upton St Leonards Scout Group (the Group) for the year ended 31st March 2023.

Respective responsibilities and basis of report

As the Group trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Group's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect :

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

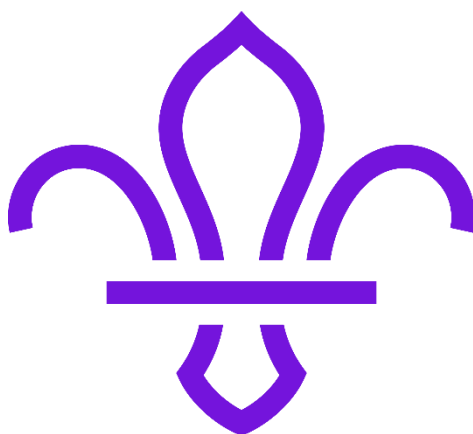
Nicholas J Bishop BSc (Hons) FCCA ACA
The Elms
Painswick Road
Brockworth
Gloucester
GL3 4RP

**1ST UPTON ST LEONARDS SCOUT GROUP
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

	31st March 2023		31st March 2022	
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Subscriptions		10,663.75		7,606.50
Gift aid		1,600.94		2,044.99
Camps/fun days and events		7,863.88		4,416.50
Donations (Lloyds £500)		565.44		25.00
Gloucester Lottery		220.50		125.50
Sundry (uniform/sweets/nutty badgers)		677.33		359.75
		<u>21,591.84</u>		<u>14,578.24</u>
Expenditure				
Camps/fun days and events	7,941.53		4,407.33	
Leader expenses/activities	4,624.59		2,527.80	
HQ/County/District subscriptions	7,090.00		5,561.50	
Sundry	244.00		169.13	
Insurance	433.68		367.87	
Hall rental	2,626.45		1,578.88	
Leader training/uniforms/badges	770.14		527.98	
		<u>23,730.39</u>		<u>15,140.49</u>
Net expenditure for the year		<u>(2,138.55)</u>		<u>(562.25)</u>

**1ST UPTON ST LEONARDS SCOUT GROUP
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31ST MARCH 2023**

	31st March 2023		31st March 2022	
	£	£	£	£
Current assets				
Current account - Lloyds	27,241.40		29,629.51	
Top Up Cards	249.56		-	
	<u> </u>		<u> </u>	
		<u>27,490.96</u>		<u>29,629.51</u>
Represented by:				
Opening bank balances:				
Current account - Lloyds	29,629.51		30,191.76	
Top Up Cards	-		-	
	<u> </u>		<u> </u>	
		29,629.51		30,191.76
Net expenditure for the year		<u>(2,138.55)</u>		<u>(562.25)</u>
		<u>27,490.96</u>		<u>29,629.51</u>
		-		-



The 1st Upton St Leonards is an established Scout Group that offers young people of all backgrounds and abilities fun, friendship and adventure while developing their skills for life. With a Squirrel Drey, two Beaver Colonies, two Cub Packs and a Scout Troop our friendly leadership team (all volunteers) is kept very busy and is always open to new members joining it.

We meet at the Village Hall in Upton. Enquiries from prospective members – young people and adults – are always welcome.

#SkillsForLife

Contact Us

If you would like any further information, please contact the Group Scout Leader, Paul Trott.

Phone: 01452 865766

Email: gsl@uptonscouts.org.uk

Web: www.uptonscouts.org.uk