

Trustees' Annual Report

For the period

From (start date)

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 to end date

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Section A

Reference and administration details

Charity name

5th Sutton in Ashfield Scout Group

Other names the charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

HQ registration number

Charity's principal address

Lammas Compound, Lammas Road

Sutton in Ashfield

Nottinghamshire

Postcode

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Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

(These will be published in the annual report of the charity and the Charity Register if reporting for a Registered Charity with a charity regulator)

	Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
1	Michael Vardy	Chair	
2	Laura Clarke	Treasurer	
3	David Scott	Group Lead Volunteer	
4	Janet Hutchinson	Team Leader	
5	Kathryn Day	Team Leader	
6	Samantha Johns	Team Leader	
7	Cath Hutchinson	Team Leader	
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Names and addresses of advisers (optional information but encouraged as best practice)

(These will be published in the annual report of the charity)

Type of advisor	Name	Address

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document

(e.g. trust deed, constitution)

The Group's governing documents are those of the The Scout Association. They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and The Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.

How the charity is constituted

(e.g. trust, association, company)

The Group is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Scout Groups and is an unincorporated association.

Trustee selection methods

(e.g. appointed by, elected by)

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

Additional governance issues (optional information but encouraged as best practice)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:

Policies and procedures adopted for:

- a) the induction and training of trustees;
- b) trustee' consideration of major risks and the systems and procedures to manage them

The Group is managed by the Group Trustee Board, the members of which are the 'Charity Trustees' of the Scout Group which is an educational charity. As charity trustees they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.

The Trustee Board consists of the Chair, Treasurer, Group Lead Volunteer Scout and up to 5 Ex Officio Trustees and meets a minimum of 3 times a year.

Scouting Members of the Trustee Board complete "Being a Scouts Trustee" learning within the first 6 months of joining the Board.

This Group Trustee Board exists to make sure the charity is well-managed, risks are assessed and mitigated, buildings and equipment are in good working order, and everyone follows legal requirements and the organisation's policies and rules. Their support helps other volunteers run high-quality and safe programmes that gives young people skills for life.

Risk and Internal Control

The Group Trustee Board has identified the major risks to which they believe the Group is exposed, these have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate against them. The main areas of concern that have been identified are:

Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members. The Group through the capitation fees contributes to the Scout Associations national accident insurance policy. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities.

Reduced income from fund raising. The Group is primarily reliant upon income from subscriptions and fundraising. The group does hold a small reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Board could raise the value of subscriptions to increase the income to the group on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently.

Reduction or loss of leaders. The group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the group. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular section or the group as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the Group.

Reduction or loss of members. The Group provides activities for all young people aged 4 to 18. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular section or the group as whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the Group.

Section C	Objectives and activities
Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document	<p>The Purpose of Scouting Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.</p> <p>The Values of Scouting As Scouts we are guided by these values: Integrity - We act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy and loyal. 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. Co-operation - We make a positive difference; we co-operate with others and make friends.</p> <p>The Scout Method 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.</p>
Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects	The main activities follow Scouting Programme to provide a variety of skills for life. Including arts, crafts, bush craft and outdoor pursuits.
Additional details of the objectives and activities (optional information but encouraged as best practice)	
<p>You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • policy on grant making; • contribution made by volunteers; • policy on investments. 	The group could not exist without the number of leaders volunteering their time both for section meeting and camps, but also preparing the programme of activities each week.
Public benefit statement	The Group meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings.

Section D**Achievements and performance**

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

For the main achievements of each section contributing to the Group as a whole, please refer to the appended Section Reports.

As a whole the Group provides opportunities for approximately 100 young people each week to grow in confidence and skills to take with them through out life.

Section E**Financial Review**

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

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 Trustee Board considers that the group should hold a sum equivalent to 5 half term membership income, circa £11,500.

The Group held reserves of approximately £15,000 against this at year end. This is above the level required for operating expenses.


Quantify and explain any designations

Details of any funds materially in deficit (circumstances plus steps to eliminate)

Further financial review details (optional information)

<p>You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);• how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;• investment policy and objectives;	<p>Investment Policy</p> <p>The Group does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer term investments. The Group has therefore adopted a risk averse strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies.</p>
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Section F	Other Optional Information
<p>Plans for future periods (details of any significant activities planned to achieve them)</p>	<p>The group is looking at oppourtunities to improve our existing buildings and offering to the community. We will also look to consider opportunities to hire the huts to reduce the overhead burden on the young people and their families.</p>

Section G	Declaration
<p>The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above</p>	
<p>Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees</p>	
Signature(s)	<div><div></div><div></div></div>
Full name(s)	<div><div>Michael Vardy</div><div>Laura Clarke</div></div>
Position (eg Secretary, Chair)	<div><div>Chair</div><div>Treasurer</div></div>
Date	<div><div>2</div><div>7</div><div>0</div><div>1</div><div>2</div><div>5</div></div>



5th Sutton in Ashfield

Leaders

Samantha Johns – Leader
Mike Redman - Assistant Leader
Isabeau Elliott - Assistant Leader
Nina Kemp – Helper
Dylan Johns - Young leader

Summary

The squirrels since opening in June 2023 have worked on the following badges:

Super Chef

Story Time

Feel Good

Let It Grow

Some Squirrels also earned their Explore Outdoors badge for taking part in the NESST walk in January.

The Squirrels have also been doing some activities towards the Let it Grow badge, the Story time badge and their All about me challenge award.

The Squirrels also came along for the day in September to the District camp at Sherbrooke and they joined the rest of the Scout group on an enjoyable trip to the Panto in January.

As a new Drey we are working towards our challenge awards which will hopefully lead to some of our Squirrels earning their Chief Scout's Acorn Award before moving onto Beavers.

Thank you to all the leaders who made this possible to set up a new Squirrel Drey in Sutton in Ashfield, without their support this wouldn't have been possible.

Samantha Johns



5th Sutton in Ashfield

Leaders

Kath Day – Beaver Leader

Trish Hodder – Assistant Beaver Leader

Keith Fretwell – Assistant Beaver Leader

Mike Redman – Assistant Beaver Leader

Emma Taylor – Assistant Beaver Leader

Summary

We have tried to vary the programme as much as possible and tried to include significant dates e.g pancake day, Burns night, Chinese New Year and St George's Day.

We have been in various visits including a District trip to the Space Centre, St Mary's church, walk around the reservoir, chippy walk (rating the chips from local shops),

In January 2024 we participated in the NESST challenge walk, joined the rest of the group at the Panto and thoroughly enjoyed a Beaver water activity day at Hoveringham - this was the first time we'd tried this activity.

In September 2023 we have been on the District camp at Sherbrooke, followed by the Beaver camp in April 2024 and paid a visit to the County Big Weekend camp in Newark. At these events and each week we have encouraged beavers to try new skills, different foods from across the world make new friends within the Section and in the District and be aware of the local environment which we will continue to do during the next year.

Locally we have paraded at the Remembrance Day Parade and ran stalls at St Mary's Summer Fayre along with singing a few campfire songs.

Our garden plot grew well during the summer and we hope to continue that in the Spring.

We have also had our first intake from squirrels.

Over the past year we have had 2 Beavers achieve the top Award for Beavers the Chief Scout's Bronze Award before moving on to join Cubs.

I would like to thank the assistant leaders and other leaders from across the sections who without their help in running programmes there would be no Beaver colony. We all work together to provide a safe and fun environment for all our young people to be creative independent and learn new skills

I would also like to thank parents that have donated items for fundraising, helped to dig over our vegetable plot and helped the Beavers with any projects we have asked them to do or monitor at home (growing grass heads and filling a matchbox which became very competitive!)

Kath Day



5th Sutton in Ashfield

Leaders

Janet Hutchinson – Leader
Mike Redman – Assistant Leader
Judith Colclough – Assistant Leader
Keith Fretwell – Assistant Leader
Samanth Johns – Helper
Young leaders
Zach, Dylan and Jasper

Summary

We have 22 cubs on the register.

For the diy badge many cubs made a Mother's Day gift from wood and have also been making bug hotels for the fire station to go into the nature reserve at the back of the fire station.

The Cubs have also been working towards their Personal Challenge Award.

In amongst all the badges work we have played a variety of fun games.

Away from the hut Cubs have taken part in a few camps including the Aussie Christmas District cub camp at Sherbrooke campsite, Scout Fest in September and The Big Weekend at Newark Showground. This gives them the opportunity to mix with other cub packs in the District/County. Cubs get a lot out of camping and build relationships with their peers.

Other activities we have attended include the NESST challenge walk in January 2024 and a trip to the Panto at Mansfield Palace Theatre with the rest of the group.

Over the past year we have had 5 Cubs achieve the top Award for Cubs the Chief Scout's Silver Award before moving on to join Scouts.

I would personally like to thank all the leaders for the help, support, friendship and banter that has kept us going. I would also like to say a big thankyou to our young leaders that work so hard (and make us coffee)



Janet Hutchinson

SCOUTS

5th Sutton in Ashfield

Leaders

Vacant Position – Leader

Janet Hutchinson – Assistant Leader (Temporary Leader)

Samantha Johns – Assistant Leader (Temporary Leader)

Isabeau Elliott – Helper

Laura Clarke – Helper

Stephanie Charlwood – Helper

Summary

The Scout section is growing big with a projection of 40 children by September. Unfortunately, our leader Paul has had to step down due to other commitments this year.

Sam and Janet are doing a great job running the section. We are working on the badges we already have. We have introduced a points system similar to cubs to hopefully keep behaviour under control.

The Scouts have been working on map skills planning routes for group camp and then undertaking those walks. They have also been looking at different ways to recycle cardboard tubes into speakers for their mobile phones.

As part of working on their Hiking skills the Scout's took part in the NESST Night Hike in January 2024.

Their cooking skills have been put to the test while they try to toast a marshmallow on a tealight and making dough to cook on an open fire.

The Scouts have looked at new skills including creating a vegetable garden and trying their hand at Rifle shooting.

The Scouts have attended 2 camps, a Group camp in September and The Big Weekend County Camp in May 2024.

I would like to thank all the leaders for their hard work and support and digging in deep to keep the Scouts running after losing the Section Leader.

Janet Hutchinson

EXPLORERS

Shadow Explorer Unit

Leaders

Cath Hutchinson – Leader

Sarah Wells – Assistant Leader

Kered Armstrong – Assistant Leader

Summary

The Explorer's have been working on their Woodwork building Bug Hotels and Bird boxes for use at the local fire station. They have also been working on their Hiking and learning new skills.

Away from the weekly meeting Explorer's have attended a few events including Scout Fest in September and The Big Weekend at Newark Showground. This gives them the opportunity to meet with other Explorer units and also develop their leadership skills through mentoring young members of the Scout Group.

As part of working on their Hiking skills the Explorer's took part in the NESST Night Hike in January.

In addition to the games and activities being undertaken weekly some of the Explorer unit members are working towards both their Young Leaders and Duke of Edinburgh Awards.

I would like to thank all the leaders for their hard work and support. And thank the young leaders for getting stuck in and helping out during session nights and camps.

Dave Scott