

1st Stoke Gifford Scout Group

REPORT TO GROUP ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, JUL 2015

Group Overview – by Ian Butcher, Executive Committee Chairman

This has been another successful year for the Group, with all sections healthy in terms of both numbers and their programmes. We continue to have a very healthy demand for places within the Group. As you will see from the report below, our finances also remain in excellent shape.

As has been the case for many years, the only cloud on the horizon relates to leadership challenges as noted by Paul in the GSL's report below.

The Group's activities would not be possible without the support of the adult and young leaders and parent helpers who generously give up so much time, our fundraising committee and also our Executive Committee members. I would like to offer the Group's thanks to all of them, especially those who put in the hours behind the scenes.

Finance Report – by Sue Gibbs, Treasurer

The figures below from the 2014/2015 and 2013/2014 audited accounts show that the Group's finances are healthy. We kept within our operating plan and finished the year with a £1,268 surplus (prior year surplus £453). This was achieved through a budgeting and monitoring plan which proved successful and greater than expected income.

Income and costs for the Scout Summer Camp and grants and costs for specific equipment purchases have been stripped out of these figures to make year-to-year comparisons easier. We have maintained our agreed reserves position which stands at £6,000, representing £1,000 for possible further work on the storage project and £5,000 as 1/3 of our annual running costs. A budget has been collated for 2015/2016 to maintain this agreed reserve and make use of £458 of the £1268 surplus from 2014/2015. The end year balance is well above the £6000 reserve because the capitation payment goes out early in the financial year.

The group is now using the fully automated online system for collecting subscriptions and will continue this going forward. We are very grateful to those parents who make use of it.

The figures on the next page, which are extracted from the audited accounts, briefly compare the past year with the previous one;

- Income, after adjusting for the Summer Camp deposits and a grant for the purchase of digital cameras was up 9% this is due to an increase in subscription fees due to increased members and an increase in non-specific donations and committee fundraising. Income is expected to remain at current levels for the next year.
- Overall running costs increased by 5% on the previous year. This can be accounted for by an increase in capitation (the fee paid to Scouts 'HQ') and small increases in Insurance due to enhanced cover, the purchase of replacement camping equipment and some further works made to the storage unit. Other costs have increased slightly as planned, this includes the activities and badges spend.

Financial summary

<u>Receipts/Debits</u>	<u>2014/15</u>	<u>2013/14</u>	
Receipts	14,731.51	13,256.13	Up 9%
Payments	13,463.22	12,830.41	Up 5%
Net balance for year	1,268.29	452.72	
 <u>Monetary assets</u>			
Bank Account	8,464.35	7,072.44	
Cash in Hand	456.46	580.08	
	9,239.61	7,652.52	
 <u>Income</u>			
Gift Aid	1,840.05	1,907.35	
Subscriptions	10,311.56	9,248.70	
Camp contributions	0.00	64.00	
BBQ Takings	1,234.91	1,596.28	
Donations/Fundraising	624.99	214.80	
Contributions towards activities	720.00	225.00	
 <u>Outgoings</u>			
Rent	3,379.93	3,471.00	
Capitation to district	4,074.00	3,794.00	
Insurance	168.82	134.65	
Consumables	192.16	145.12	
Equipment	702.77	207.77	
Activities	2,873.03	2,785.44	
Leader training	292.00	200.00	
Leader's Uniforms	68.74	99.12	
Manuals/Badges	1,229.93	1,160.00	
BBQ costs	217.11	565.19	
Gifts	43.00	23.68	
Other	221.73	244.44	

Group Scout Leader's (GSL) Report – Paul Smith

Another good year. All the sections are flourishing with ~ 90 young people attending each week, slightly down on last year. We have 20 regular uniformed leaders and (parents), helped by Young Leaders supplied by the Explorer Scout Section. We have been able to offer places to those on our waiting list in all sections, with some exceptions.

Next year we celebrate 25 years of scouting in Stoke Gifford. To celebrate we are planning a week-long camp in Jersey (23rd - 30th July 2016). We will hold a competition, open to all sections, to design a special badge to commemorate the occasion. Further details will be made available shortly to establish how many young people how would like to attend the camp.

To enable the continued training of our leaders three leaders have completed module 25 which allows us to become training advisers who will assist our leading in gaining their 'wood' badges.

All of our sections have had an exciting year with varied programs centred on earning badges, learning new skills, and having fun. Our sections try to manage to camp at least twice a year, in addition to fitting in numerous visits and activities, such as archery and rifle shooting.

Several leaders have changed roles within the Group but we are always looking for new leaders. Right now we face a particular challenge with Cubs where if we don't get some new warranted (uniformed) leaders we will have to restrict numbers to comply with the required leader/cub ratio. Given the size of the waiting list, we'd also love to re-establish the 2nd Beaver colony and Cub pack we lost a few years ago due to leader shortages. If you'd like to become a leader (or might have your arm twisted), or know someone who might, please get in touch.

None of this would be possible without the support of our Executive team and of course our uniformed leaders and occasional helpers (parents). I'd like to formally record my appreciation for all their hard work.

Reports on individual sections

Scout Troops (St Michaels School) – Marcus Booth

We have had an exciting time since the 2014 AGM. The highlights included two separate trips to the fire station at Bristol Airport, where we all got to visit smoke filled buildings and fight fires, a ghost walk around Bristol, a visit from the local Meccano club and a trip to the panto at Christmas (oh no we didn't!)

In the last 2 terms we have concentrated on our badge work much more. Everything from basic scout skills, such as knotting and map reading, through to first aid, the Model Makers badge and we also completed the Poppy Badge, which was sponsored by the British Legion and we got the last lot of badges in existence!

We had a Scout camp at Woodhouse Park in August, which was highly challenging in many ways and in May we camped at Botany Bay near Tintern, where the weather was mixed, but we did go canoeing and hiking amongst other activities.

For the remainder of the term we are going climbing and cycling and challenging the Guides around the assault course at Woodhouse.

Numbers of Scouts has remained around the 25 mark, with almost a full turn out most weeks, with a healthy mix of boys and girls.

My thanks go to Michele, Laura, Peter and Peter, our young leader, for their ideas, support and enthusiasm. We look forward to another 12 months of providing fun and activities for our young people.

Scout Troops (Old School Rooms) – Andy Phelps

We've had an exciting and fun-filled last 12 months. During the Summer term we had a week-long joint camp and had visits to the SS Great Britain, Portishead open air swimming pool and Bristol Zoo to name but a few. We have also experienced Archery at Woodhouse Park, Orienteering at Ashton Court, hired the running track in Stoke Gifford for the athletics activity badge and visited the new police station at Patchway. We took part in our annual Swimathon at Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre with the Guides and Patchway Judo Club which raised us £600 and was a great success. This fundraising along with bag packing at Sainsbury's in Stoke Gifford raises funds for the next year's 25th Anniversary camp to Jersey.

As usual we balance the program with badge work and scouting activities and this year a record 9 scouts achieved their Gold Chief Scouts Award.

The main part of the year was taken up with researching the Cenotaph and WW1 with the help of the Royal British Legion. We were the first troop in South Gloucestershire to complete the new Poppy Badge

We took part in our annual 2 day expedition from Severn Beach to Oldbury-on-Severn where we camped at the sailing club and then hiked to Berkley power station (a total distance of 20 miles). We took part in the County shooting competition where the Scouts did us very proud again as well as District events such as the Draughts competition which we won. All were great fun.

We completed our Power Coxswain Certificate (a nationally recognised award) at Watchett, and the Avon Scouts Radio Station team visited us and we broadcast from OSR recounting the Jamboree on the internet a couple of weeks earlier. Our most recent camp was with the cubs and OSR scouts troop to Tintern where they kayaked down the River Wye

Our numbers remain around 20 with several cubs joining us in September raising our numbers to about 24, we have 6 leaders, I would like to thank Kathie, Alison, Janet, Harry and Larah for

all their help and support last year. Also many thanks to our Young Leaders, George (who won the county archery competition) and Holly, for all their hard work.

Also I would like to thank the parents for all their help and support, as a very active troop we couldn't do our program without them transporting their scouts to all our events. Finally many thanks to all the outside speakers and groups that help us run our exciting program and the Wednesday night guide unit for the challenges every term.

Cubs – Carl Shaw

Currently running on 27 Cubs (2 girls) with a number of Beavers due to move up in the next few months. Due to the increased pressure that this will put on Chris and myself, we have decided to lower the 'moving on age' from Cubs to Scouts down to 10 (where appropriate), at least in the near term. This should help to keep the numbers to a manageable level. Additionally one of the upcoming Beavers should be bringing a parent with them who plans to become a helper/leader, but we are running with far fewer leaders than is ideal.

This term we have dedicated a number of weeks dedicated to the DIY badge, which was originally meant to take one week and has so far lasted four – it will be a great achievement for the Cubs to earn this badge. We are ending the term with a joint night at Woodhouse Park with the Beavers.

Beavers – Sue Baker

Currently running with 28 children (5 girls and 23 boys), and a great team of 7 leaders. We lose 2 to Cubs at the end of the summer term but these will be replaced by leaders' children rather than from the waiting list (Note: This is the only obvious 'perk' that leaders have, beyond the enjoyment they get from scouting).

Have had a full programme of activities including a hike at Blaise Castle, a trip and lesson at a Golf Range, and our annual night at Woodhouse with the cubs is planned for the end of the term. We have done a couple of badges including a new 'Gardening Badge' and the ICT Badge. The badge requirements are changing quite drastically with effect from September and they are a lot harder to gain now than before. We have made the decision to let anyone who has already gained one of the 6 old Challenge Badges to continue with the old system and anyone who hasn't gained any old Challenge Badges to follow the new system.

We are holding a sleepover on the 2nd/3rd October at Olveston Scout Head Quarters and have booked another one at Woodhouse next February.

Finally a big "thank you" to the other leaders who help each week. I feel we are a great team, have a good laugh and it is a lot easier to run when everyone does their bit.

1st Stoke Gifford Scouts
Receipts and Payments Account Summary
For The Period Ended 31st March 2015

	<u>2014/15</u>	<u>2013/14</u>
Receipts for the year	18856.98	21888.88
Payments for the year	<u>17046.57</u>	<u>26130.72</u>
Surplus/Deficit	<u>1810.41</u>	<u>-4241.84</u>
Cash/bank funds brought forward	11268.41	15510.25
Cash/bank funds carried forward	<u><u>13078.82</u></u>	<u><u>11268.41</u></u>

Statement of Assets and Liabilities a 31st March 2015

Monetary Assets

Bank Account	12622.36	10688.33
Cash In Hand	<u>456.46</u>	<u>580.08</u>
	<u><u>13078.82</u></u>	<u><u>11268.41</u></u>

Trustees Approval

The above accounts and accompanying statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees

on 6th July 2015 and signed on their behalf by [Signature]

Mrs Susan Gibbs FCCA
Treasurer

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of 1st Stoke Gifford Scouts

I report on the accounts of the Group for the year ended 31st March 2015, which are set out on pages 1 to 3.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts.

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act; and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items of disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act

have not been met; or

- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name [Signature] (J. HARRIS) Date 4th June 2015

Relevant professional qualification or body: BSc CEng FIET

Address 28, Campion Drive, Bradley Stoke BRISTOL

1st Stoke Gifford Scout Group

Receipts and Payments for the Year Ended 31st March 2015

	<u>2014/15</u>	<u>2013/14</u>
<u>Receipts</u>		
<u>Cash in Hand</u>		
Subscriptions	416.00	502.00
Camp levy	0.00	4.00
Donations	0.00	0.00
Receipts for activities/merchandise	198.50	140.00
Fundraising	0.00	42.00
BBQ takings	205.57	807.28
	<u>820.07</u>	<u>1495.28</u>
<u>Bank Account</u>		
Subscriptions	9895.56	8746.70
BBQ's takings/fees	1029.34	789.00
Charities Chqs/ Committee Fundraising	1624.99	1422.80
Camp Funds/levy	0.00	60.00
Receipts for activities/merchandise	521.50	85.00
Gift Aid Repayment	1840.05	1907.35
	<u>14911.44</u>	<u>13010.85</u>
Total Receipts For The Year	<u>15731.51</u>	<u>14506.13</u>
<u>Cash in Hand</u>		
Camp deposits	475.00	150.00
Gliding	25.00	
<u>Bank Account</u>		
Bag Packing /fundraising OSR/swimathon	797.00	2022.75
Summer camp/Cyprus deposits/grants	1425.00	5210.00
Gliding	25.00	0
Cubs ex camp account	378.47	0
	<u>3125.47</u>	<u>7382.75</u>
	<u>18856.98</u>	<u>21888.88</u>

1st Stoke Gifford Scout Group

Payments

Cash in Hand

Activities		394.82	607.26
Badges/Record books	b	244.03	324.75
Other Expenses	b	6.00	86.48
Camp Costs	b	0.00	60.00
BBQ costs/contributions	#	7.00	516.28
Camp Equipment		205.57	
Group Consumables	b	102.60	0.00
Uniform	b	0.00	27.00
		<u>960.02</u>	<u>1621.77</u>

Bank Account

Capitation payment to District		<u>4074.00</u>	<u>3794.00</u>
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Premises

Rent	b	3379.93	3471.00
Insurance	b	168.62	134.65

Activities

Group Consumables	b	117.60	145.12
Activities		<u>2474.98</u>	<u>2078.38</u>
		<u>2592.58</u>	<u>2223.50</u>

Admin/Establishment expenses

Training	b	292.00	200.00
Leaders Uniform	b	68.74	72.12
		<u>360.74</u>	<u>272.12</u>

Purchase of Camping and other Equipment

b	<u>404.09</u>	<u>207.77</u>
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Other

Other/Storage project	b	37.00	8219.45
On-line scout manager /website	b	96.73	181.64
Merchandise/Trips to be refunded	b	1003.96	0.00
Camp costs	b	61.04	34.80
Vehicle hire and costs	b	125.00	0.00
Manuals/New record cards/Badges	b	989.40	840.25
BBQ costs/contributions	#	210.11	48.91
		<u>2523.24</u>	<u>9325.05</u>

Total Payments For The Year

<u>14463.22</u>	<u>21049.86</u>
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Cash in Hand

Return Cypriot troop camp		483.67	0.00
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Bank Account

Return Cypriot troop camp		1818.68	420.00
gliding	b	205.00	250.00
Cyprus trip		0.00	4410.86
Cubs ex camp fund usage		76.00	0.00
		<u>2583.35</u>	<u>5080.86</u>

<u>17046.57</u>	<u>26130.72</u>
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