Scouts

1st Pulborough and Bury

Annual Report 2025-26





1st Pulborough & Bury Scout Group (Charity no. 274984)
Scout meetings held at: **Pulborough Village Hall**, Swan View, RH20 2BF
and **Sandham Memorial Hall**, Coldwaltham, RH20 1GG

Welcome to our AGM

Friday 3rd July 2026
6:30 - 7:00pm
Lodge Hill Activity Centre, Watersfield, RH20 1LZ

For our 2026 AGM we welcome you back to the wonderful **Lodge Hill Activity Centre**. We invite you all to join us for our AGM proceedings around the campfire, and an evening of adventurous activities, including the giant tyre slide run, the climbing tower, zip line, and a vertical obstacle course challenge, all rounded off with some toasted marshmallows. We hope you and your family have a lot of fun, as well as finding out what we've achieved over the past year and how you could get more involved.

If you haven't already responded to our invitation to put yourself forward as a Trustee or a volunteer, why not consider doing so tonight? We welcome any offer of support, but we are particularly keen to recruit a new **Chair of the Board** and some new **adult volunteers** for our **Pulborough Cubs** unit - could that be you?

We are a big friendly family, bound by a common love of adventure and helping young people build skills for life. Our volunteers come from all walks of life, and through joining us they make new friends, have great fun, and make a very real difference to our local communities and young people. Come and have an informal chat with one of us tonight to find out more.

Thank you for coming, and I hope you enjoy yourselves tonight!

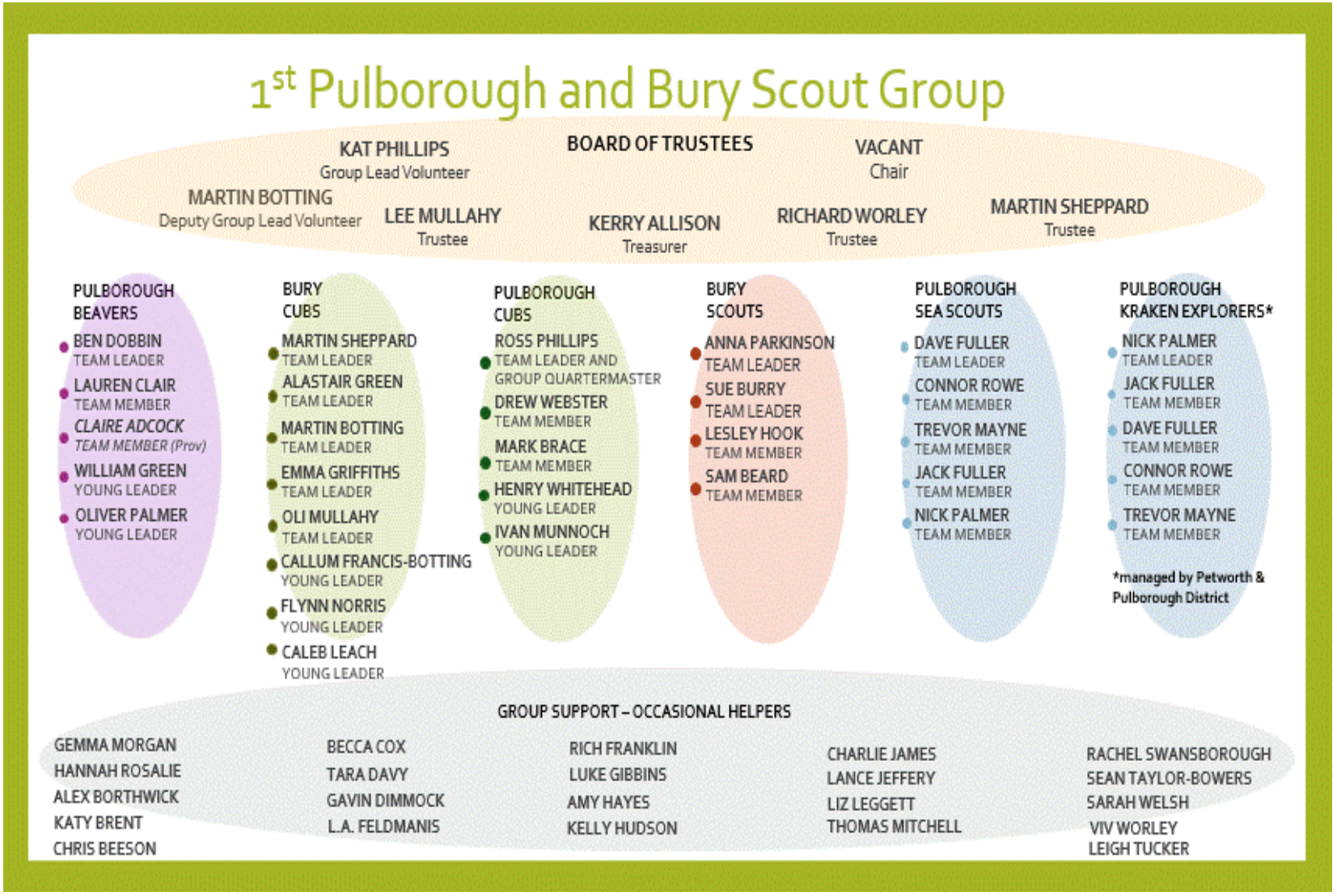
Kat Phillips, Group Lead Volunteer

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1st Pulborough and Bury Scout Group



Who's Who

AGM AGENDA - 3rd July 2026

Young people from our Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts sections and their parents, carers and siblings, are invited to join us for the evening.

Time	Activity
5:15pm-5:30pm	Beavers arrive
5:30pm-6:30pm	Beavers sno-tubing, followed by campfire s'mores.
6:15pm-6:30pm	Cubs and Scouts arrive (before AGM) and all sections gather at the campfire.
6:30pm-7:00pm	**AGM PROCEEDINGS AROUND CAMPFIRE – ALL SECTIONS**
7:00pm	Beavers depart (after AGM)
7:00pm-7:50pm	Bury Cubs and Bury Scouts: sno-tubing and s'mores Pulborough Cubs and Sea Scouts: Instructor-led activities
7:50pm-8:40pm	Pulborough Cubs and Sea Scouts: sno-tubing and s'mores Bury Cubs and Bury Scouts: Instructor-led activities
8:40pm	Campfire extinguished and Cubs/Scouts depart.

AGM Proceedings (6:30-7pm)

1. **Welcome and introduction**
2. **Apologies for absence**
3. **Governance matters**

   (Approve the minutes of the 2025 AGM, adopt the Group's constitution, note the financial year, agree the number of members of the Trustee Board and the quorum for future Group Scout Council meetings)
4. **Review of the previous year**
   a. Group Lead Volunteer's review of Scouts during the past 12 months
   b. Receive the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts
5. **Making appointments**

   (Appoint the Group Chair, members of the Group Trustee Board, and Scrutineer)
6. **Closing remarks**

Board of Trustees' report

This year has been another of growth and development across the Group with all sections running at or close to capacity. We have navigated some difficult volunteer shortages, and although some challenges remain, we have found ways for our sections to thrive, welcomed new members and grown the sense of adventure and teamwork that define us.

This year the Board has ensured our finances remain healthy. We have strengthened our policy framework with the launch of our Hardship Fund policy, and our Financial Management policy, and organised the roll out of Section Activity Budgets for the forthcoming financial year (2026-2027) which will give section leaders the freedom and flexibility to spend additional funds on their weekly programme of adventurous activities without having to ask parents to subsidise extra costs. We are delighted to have welcomed another Trustee to our Board this year in Richard Worley, although we are still looking for a Chair to head up the team.



Our section leaders have put on a fabulous programme throughout the year for all our young people, and we were delighted when our longstanding Sea Scouts team leader **Dave Fuller** was awarded the John Hickman Memorial Challenge Award by our colleagues at District, in recognition of his contribution to Scouting in Petworth and Pulborough District; a very well-deserved honor!

We are looking to have a fundraising stand at the Pulborough Harvest Fayre this autumn and there will be an emphasis on recruitment of volunteers; Pulborough Cubs in particular are in need of more volunteers. We encourage anyone interested in making a difference to reach out and get involved - whatever you can offer we'd love to hear from you.

I want to offer my sincere thanks to all of our Section Leaders and volunteers. Your dedication, enthusiasm, and unwavering commitment ensure that our Group continues to flourish. You are at the heart of everything we do, and your contributions are deeply valued.

We look forward to another exciting year ahead!

Lee Mullahy, Trustee

Group Lead Volunteer's report

What a busy year it has been! Our Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts sections have remained as popular as ever, and it's easy to see why when you look at the **amazing programme** that our leaders have put on. Our young people have been on camps, hikes and expeditions, they have tried their hand at den-building, raft-building, paddleboarding, kayaking, archery, rifle-shooting, cooking (both backwoods-style and conventional!), sailing, cycling, DIY, wood carving, pioneering, navigating, church bell ringing, and geocaching, they have enjoyed visits from special guests including assistance dog teams, wildlife experts and emergency services, and they have been on trips to local nature reserves, activity centres, bowls clubs, climbing walls,fire stations, a planetarium, a gliding club, and of course the fabulous South Downs. And all for £15 a month. We're incredibly proud of the wide and varied experiences we have been able to offer our young people, giving them the chance to discover adventure and the outdoors, make new friends, and build skills for life.

This year, in partnership with our colleagues at District, we've expanded the opportunities for local young people with the launch of the **Kraken Explorer unit** in Pulborough. Open to young people aged 14 to 18, Explorer Scouts design their own program based around adventure, skills and leadership, with the ultimate goal being the King's Scout Award. Four Kraken Explorers have already signed up as **Young Leaders,** bringing our total to a record-breaking eight young leaders across the Group this year, and they all provide valuable help to our adult volunteers to run our Beavers and Cubs sections and to act as role models for our younger members.

We have been blessed with new volunteers joining several of our sections, which has helped us to address some of last year's recruitment challenges:

- At Beavers we were sad to lose the wonderful Kelly Ackerman (Ladybird) and Emma Griffiths (Woodpecker), but delighted to welcome **Ben Dobbin** (Barn Owl) in to lead the colony as their successor, supported by **Lauren Clair** (Wren) who stepped up from a parent helper role, and (very) new recruit **Claire Adcock** who has joined in the last couple of weeks. Together they have delivered a brilliant programme.

- Beavers' loss was Bury Cubs' gain, as **Emma Griffiths** moved up to join the Cubs team when her daughter swam up from Beavers. And we are delighted that previous Young Leader **Oli Mullahy** signed up as an adult leader once he turned 18. This

brings the Bury Cubs team up to five members which makes the workload much more manageable for everyone.

- At Bury Scouts, we'd been struggling to keep the troop running following the departure of the previous leader. Thankfully, two parents have stepped forward to answer our plea for new volunteers, and we are thrilled that **Sam Beard** and **Sue Burry** have joined as leaders, and will be working alongside Anna and Lesley to take the troop forward into a new era.

Our recruitment focus for 2026-2027 now shifts to **Pulborough Cubs**, whose leader numbers have dwindled down to three team members in recent months, with one of them due to leave at the end of this term. Although our two remaining leaders Ross and Drew are both brilliant, we really can't operate with just two leaders long-term, so to keep the doors open we need to recruit another team member to join them and share the workload - could this be you? Please reach out for a chat if you think you have something to offer.

Of course, not everyone wants to sign up as a uniformed leader, but there are many other ways that people can help out. We've launched **Parent Rotas** across most of our sections this year, as a way to source occasional help from our network of brilliant parents. We've been delighted that so many parents have offered their time in this way, signing up for the evenings that they are free and helping us to boost our adult numbers on evenings away from the hall and nights at camp, and supporting our leaders to run the weekly sessions.

We couldn't operate without our **brilliant network of volunteers**, and I really can't say thank you loudly enough to each and every one of you; leaders, young leaders, and occasional parent helpers - you make a huge difference to the lives of young people in our community and we appreciate everything that you do.

Kat Phillips, Group Lead Volunteer

Beavers Leaders' report

This year the Pulborough Beavers have enjoyed some fantastic trips and activities, as well as earning and working towards their badges.

In the Autumn term there was Raft Building and racing on the River Arun, as well as a trip to the planetarium and a Christmas party involving Clip'n'Climb and Bowling.

The Spring Term saw me (Barn Owl) join the colony as Kelly (Ladybird) stepped back with work commitments. A night hike around Pulborough Brooks RSPB in the wet and mud was quite the introduction to the colony!





We also managed to go sno-tubing at Lodge Hill and visit Storrington Fire Station to learn more about fire safety and were even allowed to have a go at using the hoses!

The Summer term is mostly planned around outdoor activities, with tunnelling, lots of hikes and wide games as well as camp and Go Beavers. St George's Day was a great day out for the Beavers at

Parham, with some impressive archery, welly wanging and coconut shy attempts in the sun. We also held a cooking competition where each Beaver designed and created their own imaginative sandwich, with some unexpected combinations including egg, Biscoff and jam…



We now have 14 young people in the colony, with the view to slowly grow back to 18. Our current boy:girl ratio is 11:2 so we need to work on that going forward to try and get a more balanced mix and ensure we have a colony that feels welcome to all.



We had two young leaders at the start of the year, this has dropped to 1 now that Oliver has completed his time, but not before Oliver and William ran a fantastic fire safety session following the Fire Station visit in the Spring.

Currently we have 3 uniformed leaders and a fourth is joining at the time of writing. We also have a number of parent volunteers who help keep us running each week when we need to get outside!



Our Beavers have earned a total of 202 Badges since the last AGM, with 5 Chief Scout Bronze awards and 31 other different badges earned across the colony. A special mention to Bertie and Oakley who have earned 23 badges each in the last year!

Parent helper and uniformed leader availability is always a concern - we are in a relatively good position at the moment but as Beavers swim up to cubs, we know there is always a level of turnover that needs attention to keep in balance. If you can help please let us know.

As the new leader, I am getting into the swing of organising the colony now, and I'm working on a more structured programme to ensure all of the Beavers achieve their Bronze award and get a well rounded balance of activities to suit all of them.

At the time of writing we are also really looking forward to Go Beavers and the Group Camp in June.



Acknowledgements

Thank you to Lauren (Wren), Nick (Otter) and Gemma for always being there to help and keep our Beaver nights running, as well as helping Barn Owl get settled in this year.

I'd like to really thank Kelly (Ladybird) for the handover she gave me and introducing me to OSM and all the resources we have available. Her effort over the last few years has been amazing.

And of course I want to thank our Beavers for always adding an unexpected twist to every activity. Whatever we have planned usually gets some upheaval when it is met with their creativity and imagination!

Ben Dobbin (Barn Owl), Pulborough Beavers

Bury Cubs Leaders' report

There are so many highlights across the year that we wanted to share as many as we could – here are a few…

When we returned from the summer break we had 18 Cubs, a really strong number for us. To keep them busy we had a go at an activity we haven't completed for many years – going for a night cycle – this time along Centurion Way, from Chichester to Lavant, which was exciting and energising for all of us. Autumn evenings are good for getting outside while the light fades, so we made the most of a local expert, Ryan from the Sussex Bat Group at the wonderful St James Primary School in Coldwaltham, then on to St Giles churchyard and finally Sandham Hall to 'look' for bats - we were pleased to find Common Pippistrelle, Serotine and Brown Long Eared bats using the air above for their food.



Diwali was amazing this year, especially as one of our star cubs Eva (and her mum Amruta) are Hindus, and they told us about their experiences of the Festival of Lights. The Cubs got to try some of the Diwali activities too, and as usual they got to try Indian sweets (with mixed results).

Remembrance Sunday – one of the key dates on the Scouting Calendar - was well attended at St Giles, and the Cubs were impeccable in their behaviour - we were really proud of them. In the run up to the day we created our own poppy wreath, and – thanks to the research done by Greg Fielder from the Royal Sussex Regimental Association earlier this year - the



Cubs heard about the bravery of Ronald Adams. Ronald is one of the servicemen commemorated at Bury. He gave his life in the Second World War serving with the Chindits in Burma.



In November we went to Chichester Observatory with Pulborough Beavers for an evening of astronomy, then as we approached Christmas more Cubs joined so we had to create a new ‘Six’. Luckily the leader numbers were reinforced as we welcomed a new adult leader (Emma) and a new young leader (ex-Bury Cub, Flynn - who is working towards his D of E).

For the second year we worked with Richard Champness from Bury Parish Council to select and harvest a Christmas tree to go outside the village hall. When it had been beautifully decorated, the pack took the opportunity to hold a Christmas fun evening in Bury Village Hall and sing carols next to the tree.



Alfred Wainwright’s famous quote, "There’s no such thing as bad weather, only unsuitable clothing," appeared in his 1973 book, Coast to Coast. As we are all aware, the weather over the winter was pretty miserable. This didn’t stop Bury Cubs from stepping out into the dark and dank in February when we went for a night hike around Kithurst Hill, and then went on a toad hunt with local chief-toad hunter Ed Rowsell.

The hike, along the top of the South Downs above Storrington, and the wind bit into rain-dashed faces. Thankfully we had discussed what to wear for a night hike the previous week, so we were all prepared – and singing songs as we walked along went a long way to taking our minds off the conditions. As did the hot chocolate on our return to the cars to be fair!

Toad hunting is to some degree a matter of chance. They will migrate at some point, but toads are picky about the right

conditions. It needs to be quite warm for a February evening, there should be moisture in the air and/or on the road, and if there's moonlight, all the better. That makes choosing the right Thursday night quite tricky as weather forecasts change from about 48 hours out. The one we went for had all of the promise of a good night for amphibian movement, but in the end the Cubs helped about 6 toads cross West Burton Lane to their breeding grounds, as well as three frogs. Compared to the 115 toads that we helped three years ago, the difference (linked to the conditions) is clear. It was still a great evening, with Ed sharing his in-depth knowledge with the Cubs. For instance, did you know that toads were poikilotherms, because their body temperature fluctuates with the environment?

Perhaps most importantly though, our five oldest Cubs (Woody, Max, Leighton, Eva and Charlotte) were all awarded their Chief Scout's Silver Award. Five is a record for one night for us too – and a great reflection on the excellent effort all five have put into their time with us.



The visit from Nick, Network Rail's Community Safety Officer, was a first for us and part of the Cubs' Personal Safety badge. It was brilliant. It gave us all the chance to find out how to behave on the railways, and therefore hopefully reduce the issues that Network Rail has to correct. He really brought rail safety to life.

Geocaching – looking for 'treasure' hidden by other geocachers all around us, was a first for many of our Cubs. We met at Lord's Piece and split into three teams. It's really exciting for 8-year olds; they learn about navigation, use technology (an app on a phone) and look high and low for the hidden caches – in competition with their friends. A parent of one Cub shared that their family had been geocaching three times in the days following the session, so enthused was their young person by the challenge!

Classic nights like Backwoods Cooking up at Pill Pond are always a favourite. This year we integrated the St George's Day Play in the open air on the same evening – such a beautiful spring evening in that setting, with the smell of wild garlic accompanying the cooking.

In amongst this all we ran our traditional coconut shy at the St George's Day Parade, this year held in Parham Park – the weather has been so kind this spring and we're hoping it holds for our summer programme.



Acknowledgements

A massive thankyou to Martin (Chil), Alastair (Hathi), Emma (Woodpecker) and now Oli (Rikki) for the effort they all put in, particularly as Martin is also a Trustee of the Group and Alastair has been helping out at Bury Scouts for most of the year.

Our Young Leaders - Callum, Flynn and now Caleb - have been fantastic. Callum in particular has achieved all of the Young Leader modules that District put on, giving up many Saturdays.

We have excellent parents who help via our rota, organised by the marvellous Vicky (following on from Katie) - thank you all. But most importantly a big thank you to our Cubs, who make it all worthwhile while learning and enjoying their Scouting lives.

Martin Botting (Baloo), Bury Cubs

Pulborough Cubs Leaders' report

Pulborough Cubs have enjoyed a varied programme over the year, covering outdoor skills, community involvement and creative activities.

Outdoor Adventures — Highlights included a night hike at Kithurst Hill, a 5km walk around the RSPB reserve, and regular nature visits to Pulborough Brooks as part of ongoing Naturalist badge work. For Air Activities, we visited Southdown Gliding Club at Parham Airfield - it was a brilliant and informative visit that helped the Cubs achieve the next stage of their Air Activities badge. They had a chance to sit in a glider and give the club's brand new simulator a go. We were made to feel really welcome and were guided round by numerous club members, from the Chairman down to younger cadets.





Practical Skills — Pulborough Cubs developed knife safety and handling skills, practiced batoning and feather-stick carving, and completed a pioneering session learning key knots and even making their own rope.

Community & Seasonal Activities — The group created Remembrance wreaths with support from Pulborough Flower Shop, produced crafts for the Parish Council Christmas Market, ran their own stall, and ended the term with a Christmas party.

Creative Work — The Photographer badge saw Cubs learning how the camera works, including apertures and shutter speeds, taking local tourism-style photos, and editing images. They also produced clay gifts for Mother's Day.

Cultural Learning — For Chinese New Year, Cubs explored the Zodiac animals and practiced writing Chinese characters.

Theatrical Skills — After Easter, the Cubs took part in the always-popular and highly entertaining St George's Day play.



Fire & Food — Sessions at St Mary's Primary School focused on fire lighting and backwoods cooking, with Cubs preparing and cooking food over open fires.

Major Events — We attended both District and Group camps, on consecutive weekends (which was great fun, but very tiring). The group proudly joined the Remembrance Parade and several Cubs took part in the challenging but rewarding Survival Camp organised by District, a true test of resilience and outdoor ability.



We have proudly seen three of our cubs complete the badgework for their Chief Scout's Silver Award, which is lovely to see.

Allthough the majority of our Cubs attend St Mary's Primary school in Pulborough, we greatly appreciate the fact that we've welcomed young people from a whole range of local schools and they all just get on - it really shows how new friendships can be made in Scouting.

Our section has stayed steady at 21 Cubs this year, which is fantastic. However, we are now very short on leaders — and about to lose more — which is a serious concern. We're lucky to have supportive parent helpers who keep us within ratios, but we urgently need more adults to step forward as leaders.



Looking Ahead — Upcoming activities include the AGM/Activity Day at Lodge Hill and an end-of-term celebration featuring water rockets and games at the Primary School.

Acknowledgements

Thanks to St Mary's Primary School for hosting us so generously throughout the year, to our leaders Mark and Drew, to our Cubs and parents for their commitment and support. A particular thankyou goes to our Trustees and Lead Volunteer, whose behind-the-scenes work keeps the section running smoothly.

Ross Phillips (Bagheera), Pulborough Cubs

Bury Scout Leaders' Report

This year has been another busy, exciting and successful one for our Scouts, filled with opportunities to learn new skills, challenge themselves and, most importantly, have fun together.

We started the year working on Navigator badge planning and map skills, which led to the Scouts successfully completing a hike along the route they had planned themselves. This was followed by a games evening and hike review, giving everyone the chance to reflect on what they had achieved.

One of the highlights of the autumn term was a fascinating evening of bell ringing at St Giles Church, Coldwaltham, kindly supported by Rosemary, where Scouts experienced a completely different and unique skill.





Seasonal activities included pumpkin carving and sewing felt poppies for Remembrance Day crafts, before proudly attending the Remembrance Day Service to pay their respects.

Outdoor adventure remained a huge part of the programme this year, with hikes and wide games at Hesworth Common, several night hikes, an Easter egg hike, den building in the woods and plenty of opportunities to develop teamwork and resilience.



Our Scouts also represented the 1st Pulborough and Bury Scout Group brilliantly at the archery and shooting competition. Bury Scouts achieved 3rd place for archery, and a special congratulations goes to Freddie H, who won 1st place overall, an outstanding achievement.

The Scouts worked on a variety of practical badges and skills throughout the year, including our MasterChef cookery challenge, Artist badge activities, pioneering projects, and many evenings dedicated to knife and saw skills and fire lighting. These sessions have helped build confidence, responsibility and independence.



Another memorable experience was visiting Brinsbury College during lambing season with one of our parents Ben (who works there), giving Scouts the chance to learn more about farming and animal care.



This year we again joined with Pulborough Sea Scouts to attend the District Camp at Petworth Park, where Scouts enjoyed an action-packed camp full of water activities, challenges and unforgettable memories!

Of course, alongside all the adventurous activities, we also made time for our annual Christmas party and lots of games and laughter throughout the year.



None of this would be possible without the dedication and support of our leaders, parents and carers. Thank you for giving your time, encouragement and help throughout the year. Your support allows the Scouts to enjoy these fantastic opportunities and experiences.

Most importantly, thank you to all of the Scouts themselves for their enthusiasm, energy and willingness to get involved in everything we do. We are incredibly proud of everything they have achieved this year and look forward to another exciting year ahead.

Anna Parkinson, Bury Scouts

I joined the Bury Scout Group in March 2026, initially as a parent helper, and have since progressed into a leader role. During this time, I have had the opportunity to support the Scouts across a wide range of activities, including hikes, fire safety and lighting, pioneering, team-building games, den building, and attending a camp.

I would also like to extend my thanks to the parents, fellow leaders, and, of course, the young people for providing such a warm and welcoming introduction to the group.
One particular highlight has been the Petworth Park camp, especially the capture the flag activity. It was fantastic to see the young people so engaged, making the most of the incredible surroundings while enthusiastically working together and enjoying the challenge. The camp also provided a great opportunity for them to try a variety of new activities and spend time with friends, including those from school.

I am very much looking forward to the next 12 months and continuing to support the group.

Sue Burry, Bury Scouts

Sea Scouts Leaders' report

Since the last AGM we finished off the summer with a full programme of water sports, with kayaking, paddle boarding, raft building and the much-loved Mega SUP!



For our older scouts there was the expedition hike from Pulborough out over the brooks, through Amberely and up to camp at Bignor Roman Villa. All planned and navigated on their own.





Winter brings the district Halloween hike where they hike through the night and complete challenges along the way, all doing really well with one team coming in second place.





At Christmas we went for an evening of pub skittles and a buffet. Sea scouts attended the district rifle and archery competition and true to form we came 1st in both.



Petworth Park camp was another great event enjoyed by all with the added bonus of good weather.

Other memorable events being sailing on Supeta yacht, climbing wall, building Da Vinci bridges, prepping and cooking pheasants and ducks, a visit by an assistant dog and handler as well as our annual visit to the local lawn bowls club.







Dave Fuller (Skip), Sea Scouts

Explorer Leaders' report

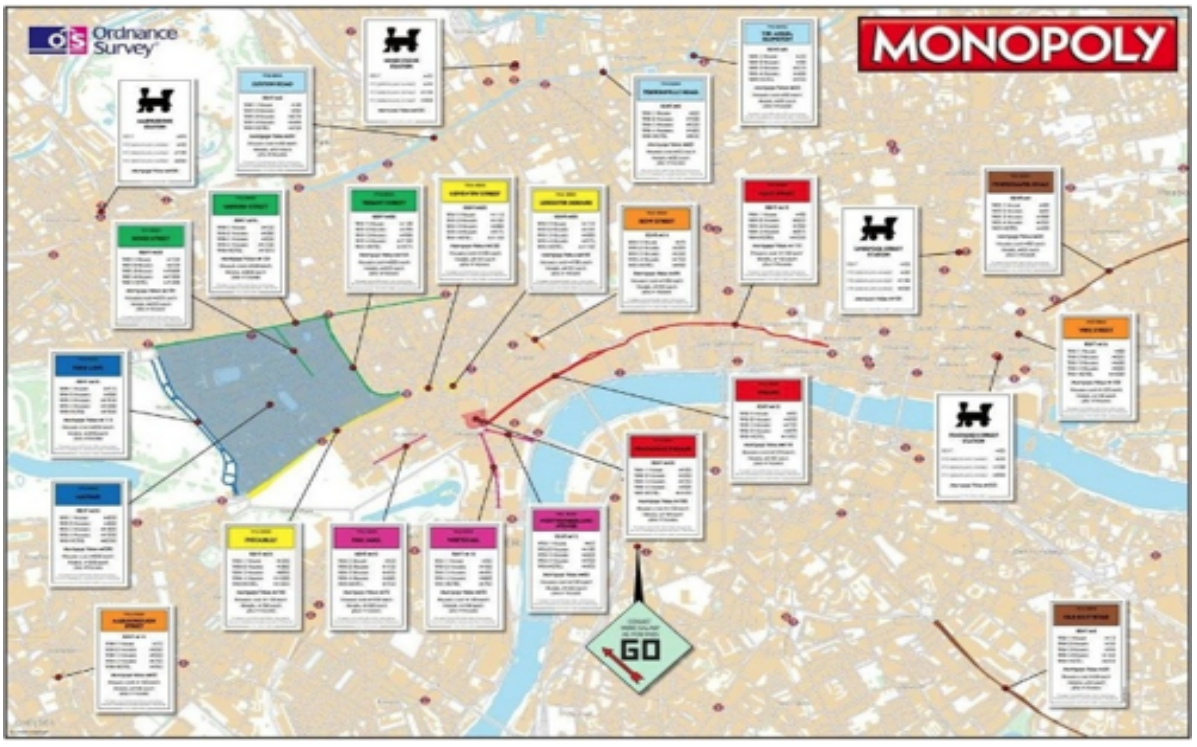
This year saw the launch of the **KRAKEN Explorer Scout Unit**, based in Pulborough, with the support of the 14-24 team at Petworth and Pulborough District. Open to young people aged 14 to 18, Explorer Scouts design their own program based around adventure, skills, and leadership through the Young Leader's scheme, with the ultimate goal being the King's Scout Award. See below for some of the things we have been up to over the last couple of terms! Notable mentions include winning the District archery competition, winning the District rifle shooting competition, and definitely being the most lost on the Halloween Hike!

Nick Palmer, Kraken Explorers








Ordnance Survey
MONOPOLY
GO







Group Camp, Stopham

12th - 14th June, 2026








GoSea







Treasurer’s report

In 2025-2026, our core expenditure included Scout Association membership for all members, rent for the premises where we hold our meetings, insurance, badges, programme materials, and the purchase and maintenance of equipment used across all sections. This year we also invested in an extensive set of archery equipment, further expanding the range of activities available to our young people.

Subscriptions remain set at a level designed to cover our ongoing operating costs while allowing us to maintain and replace equipment as required. Continued growth in membership over recent years has provided additional income.

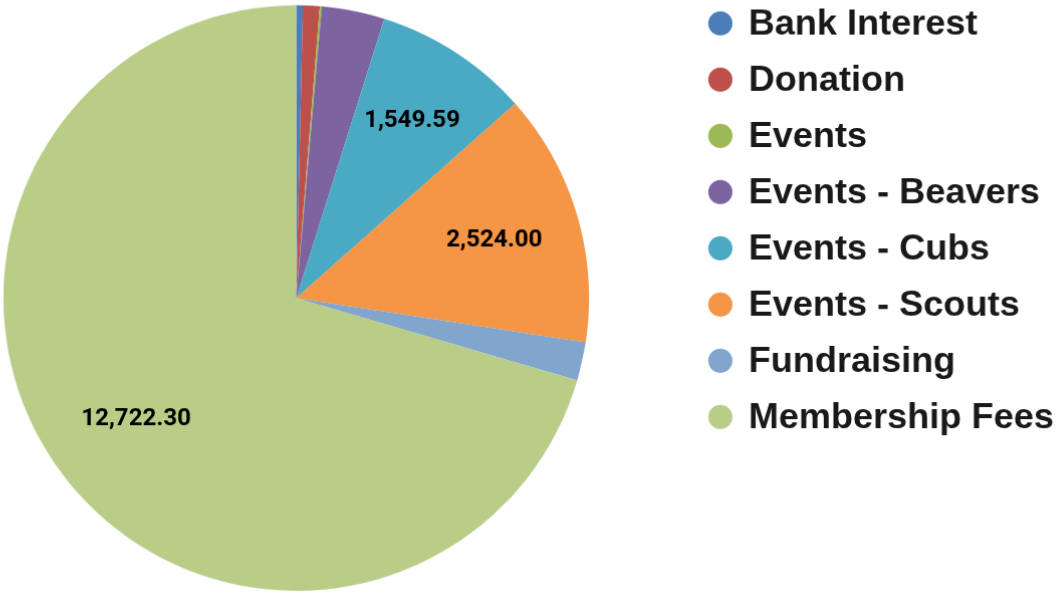
During the year, total income amounted to £18,055, while total expenditure was £19,259, resulting in a net deficit of £1,203. However, we did not claim Gift Aid this financial year (which would have resulted in a net surplus), and we will instead claim for two years next financial year. Fundraising income was also lower than in previous years due to the cancellation of the Pulborough Harvest Fayre in 2025. Our Cubs ran a stall at the Pulborough Christmas Fete which brought in some fundraising income, and we also received donations from the Labouring Man in Coldwaltham from their quiz evenings. The income from Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts events (payments for attendance at camps etc) simply covers the cost of us providing those additional activities and experiences.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all our volunteers, supporters and community partners for their continued generosity and commitment. Overall the group remains in a strong financial position, with comfortable levels of reserves, and is well placed to continue investing in equipment, activities and the future programme.

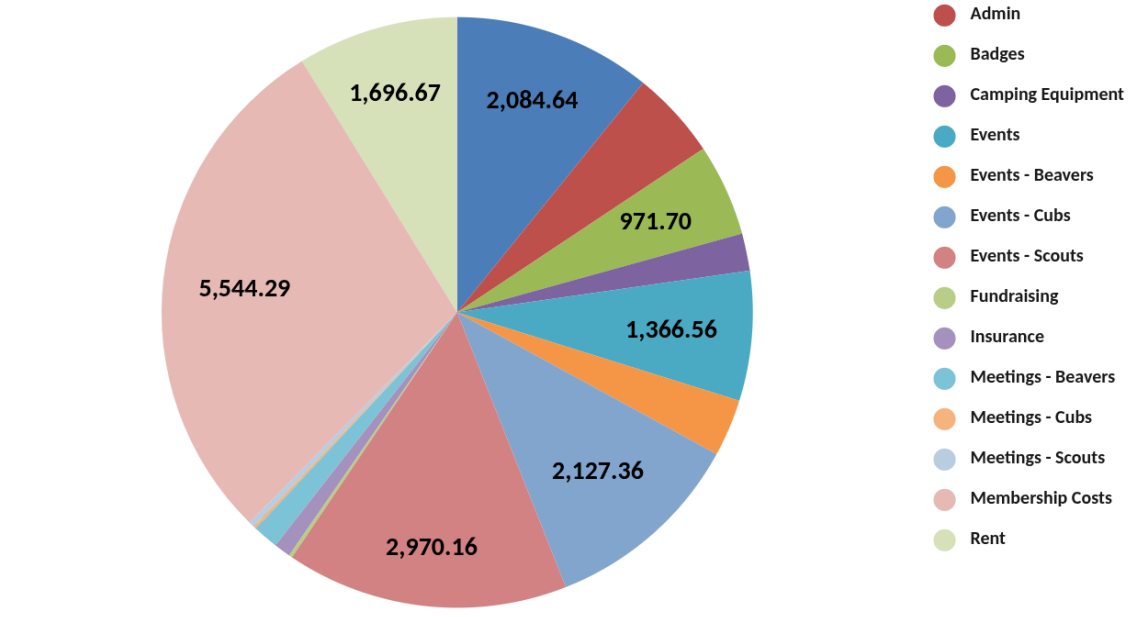
Kerry Allison, Treasurer

Total Income 25-26:	£18,055
Total Expenditure 25-26:	£19,259
Net :	-£1,203

2025-2026 Income



2025-2026 Expenses



Financial year 2025-2026

	2025-2026	2024-2025
Income:	**18,055.99**	**22,645.57**
Bank Interest	65.47	8.76
Donation	165.81	1,157.94
Events	21.00	1,450.00
Events - Beavers	625.08	392.00
Events - Cubs	1,549.59	281.00
Events - Scouts	2,524.00	1,445.30
Fundraising	382.74	1,137.56
Gift Aid	0.00	5,009.86
Membership Fees	12,722.30	11,763.15
Expenditure:	**19,259.20**	**16,454.50**
Activity Equipment	2,084.64	2,020.55
Admin	929.39	620.62
Badges	971.70	1,376.75
Camping Equipment	393.00	0.00
Events	1,366.56	1,485.35
Events - Beavers	604.07	604.43
Events - Cubs	2,127.36	649.51
Events - Scouts	2,970.16	1,812.04
Fundraising	37.04	0.00
Insurance	175.16	139.72
Meetings - Beavers	268.10	132.62
Meetings - Cubs	29.47	300.95
Meetings - Scouts	61.59	312.96
Membership Costs	5,544.29	4,234.00
Rent	1,696.67	2,605.00
Training	0.00	160.00
Account balances:		
Barclays Community Account	8,180.61	9,383.82
Barclays Business Account	5,410.51	5,410.51
Summary:		
Account balance brought forward	14,794.33	8,603.26
Total income	**18,055.99**	**22,645.57**
Total expenditure	**19,259.20**	**16,454.50**
Net income	-1,203.21	6,191.07
Account balance carried forward	**13,591.12**	**14,794.33**

Quartermaster's report

As Group Quartermaster, I am responsible for maintaining an itinerary and overseeing the repair, maintenance and storage of all the Group's kit and equipment. This year we've made some great additions:

- A **4.5m x 4.5m sided event shelter** and some **new tents**, which have been put to good use at this year's camps. We have further added to this recently (full details will appear in next year's report) with some extra changing room tents to improve the space and privacy for young people who are changing in and out of watersports clothes, and an upgrade to our camping toilets.

- Excitingly, we have also made a significant investment in a comprehensive **set of archery kit and equipment** now that we have a leader within the Group who has an archery permit. This is a great investment for our future and will allow us to offer archery sessions without the complications of arranging the loan of kit (and leaders with permits!) from other groups.

I have continued my watch on Freecycle and local Facebook groups to bulk out our supplies of spare uniform and personal camping gear (hiking boots, sleeping bags etc) so that we can loan these out to any members who need them.

Donations are always gratefully received and can be put to great use – if any of our parents and supporters have any unwanted or outgrown uniforms, walking boots, tents, camping supplies, games equipment or water sports gear, please contact me or your Section Leader with details.

Ross Phillips (Bagheera), Quartermaster

Thanks to…

- Our growing network of local donors and supporters, who have given us funds, or gifts in kind, or offered us free use of their facilities, or free storage. We are very grateful to: **St Mary's Primary School**, **St James' Primary Schoo**l, **Pulborough Village Hall**, **Sandham Memorial Village Hall**, and **The Labouring Man**.

- Our Group Lead Volunteer **Kat Phillips** who continues to coordinate and oversee the activities of the Group, providing support and guidance to each section.

- **Martin Botting**, who continues to support the Group as a Trustee and Deputy Group Lead Volunteer, and is also a committed and regular leader with Bury Cubs.

- Our Treasurer, **Kerry Allison**, and our Trustees **Lee Mullahy**, **Martin Sheppard** and **Richard Worley**, for delivering their roles with drive and enthusiasm.

- **Ben Dobbin**, who stepped up to lead our Beavers section in April 2026 after the departure of Kelly Ackerman, and who has taken on the role with a big smile, passion and enthusiasm, and is taking the Beavers programme onwards and upwards.

- **Ross Phillips**, who looks after our kit and equipment as the Quartermaster, as well as leading Pulborough Cubs, and has also supported the new team of leaders at Bury Scouts to develop their skills and confidence over the past two terms.

- **Alastair Green** who jointly leads the team at Bury Cubs (alongside Trustees Martin Botting and Martin Sheppard, and colleagues Emma Griffith and Oli Mullahy), and who also supported Bury Scouts in the spring term while we were short of leaders.

- **Anna Parkinson** and **Lesley Hook** who have steered Bury Scouts through a challenging year of leader shortages, and will be supporting new recruits Sue Burry and Sam Beard to settle into their roles within the team as we move forward.

- **Dave Fuller** who, with his team of leaders and permit holders at Sea Scouts, organises a rich and varied programme of activities for the whole Group, including our annual Group Camp, and a range of 'permit holder only' activities such as water sports, archery and rifle shooting which really broadens the horizons and experiences of all our young people, from Beavers upwards.

- **Nick Palmer**, who has driven forward the set up of the Kraken Explorer Unit alongside team members from Sea Scouts (whilst also helping regularly at Beavers!) and has transformed the opportunities available for 14-18 year olds in Pulborough.

- Our amazing Young Leaders **Callum**, **Flynn, Caleb, Henry, Ivan, Oliver** and **William**, who volunteer each week giving much needed support to our adult leaders, and who are such inspirational role models to our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts.

These remarkable people do so much and we are truly grateful to them.

How you can help

As a small, registered charity (registered charity no. 274984) 1st Pulborough and Bury Scout Group relies on subscription income, fundraising and most of all our network of volunteers.Could you, or someone you know, help us out?

1. Consider stepping up as a leader - particularly at Pulborough Cubs

Pulborough Cubs will be down to two leaders from September 2026, so we desperately need one or two new volunteers to join the team and help us out with planning and activities**.** It is fun, rewarding and you will make a real difference to the lives of young people in our community. Please come for an informal (no pressure!) chat with Kat, Martin, or Ross.

2. If you can't commit to being a Leader, we need people to volunteer in other ways:

- As a **Chairperson** - we are still without a formal Chair, and are rotating the responsibility among existing Trustees. We would like to recruit someone to step into the role to chair our Trustee meetings and oversee the running of our charity.

- As **Trustees** - we would like to recruit some additional members to our Board of Trustees to help steer and govern our Group effectively. We are particularly keen to recruit people with skills/interests in **web design** and **social media**.

Or if you want to help but aren't sure how, just come and speak to us!

3. Help us raise funds:

- **Sign up for Easyfundraising.org/1stpulboroughscout** every online purchase you make sends small amounts of money to us, so we can make a bigger difference.

- **Gift us your Gift Aid** – this costs you absolutely nothing, but can bring in £2,000-3,000 a year of income from the UK Government if everyone signs up). Just log on to your Online Scout Manager (OSM) account and update your gift aid details (or tick the box to say you can't) so we can benefit when you pay your subs.

- **Donations** – please contact gsl@1stpulborough.org.uk if you or someone you know would like to make a kind donation to us that will support our aims.

4. If you have opportunities, links or connections that you think could help the sections or the group please let us know. Contact gsl@1stpulborough.org.uk.