

CESTRIAN SCOUT GROUP

Annual Review 2022

Registered Charity Number 514106



Starting back up after lockdown!



Group visit to the Circus!



AGM Party Time as promised!



Nung – It's amazing who she meets!



We prepare young people with skills for life

Cestrian Scout Group

Registered charity No 514106

AGM and ANNUAL REVIEW MEETING 2022

Friday 15th July 2022 @ 6.30pm
At Cestrian Scout HQ, Thackeray Drive, Vicars Cross.

AGENDA

1	Welcome by Group Scout Leader	Keith Harding
1a	Opening Prayer	Keith Harding
2	Apologies for absence	Denise Huxley
3	Approval of 2021 AGM Minutes	Denise Huxley
4	Approval of Accounts for year end March 2022	Sarah Oliver
5	Group Scout Leaders Report	Keith Harding
6	Chairman's Report	Denise Huxley
7	Nomination and approval of Chairman*	Keith Harding
8	Election of Group Secretary	Denise Huxley
9	Election of Group Treasurer	Denise Huxley
10	Election of Auditors	Denise Huxley
11	Election of Group Executive Committee Members+	Denise Huxley
12	Approval of Group Scout Leaders nominations to The Group Executive Committee+	Keith Harding
13	The District Commissioner / Representative	Alan Wilding
14	Presentations / Awards	
15	Vote of thanks	

Note:

- * In accordance with the rules of the Scout Association, only the Group Scout Leader may nominate a person to the position of Group Chairman.
- + Nominations to the Group Executive Committee should be representative of all sections of the Group.

Keith Harding – Group Scout Leader Cestrian Scout Group, Chester.
Tel 01244 301605, Mobile: 07889 428262
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Cestrian Scout Group

Receipts and Payments Account

Year start date

Year end date

For the year from	1-May-21	To	30-Apr-22
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Receipts and payments

	2021/22	2020/21
	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	£	£
Receipts		
Donations, legacies and similar income		
Membership subscriptions	7,268	3,212
Less: Membership subscriptions paid on (National/County/Area/District)	(3,922)	(3,175)
Net membership subscriptions retained	3,346	37
Group Activities (inc Chamboree 22 £2,280)	2,882	-
Gift Aid	604	2,203
Sub total	6,832	2,240
Grants		
COVID 19 grants	-	18,335
Sub total	-	18,335
Fundraising (gross)		
HQ Hire - Explorer Scouts	400	-
HQ Hire - Totally Active	-	80
HQ Hire - other	590	-
Necker money	136	6
Bingo evenings (profit £460)	885	-
Other fundraising activities	24	24
Sub total	2,035	110
Investment income		
Bank interest	4	32
Sub total	4	32
Total Gross Income	8,871	20,717
Asset and investment sales, etc.	-	-

Total receipts

8,871

20,717

Cestrian Scout Group Receipts and Payments Account

Year start date

Year end date

For the
year
from

1-May-21

To

30-Apr-22

Receipts and payments

2021/22

2020/21

Unrestricted
funds
£

Unrestricted
funds
£

Payments

Charitable Payments		
Youth programme and activities (inc Chamboree 22 £3,175)	4,899	1,018
Music Licence	449	-
Great Boughton Parish Council ground rent	60	-
Water and Sewerage	206	181
Electricity and Gas	1,236	1,289
Insurance	1,351	1,313
Website hosting (2020/21 2 years)	90	170
HQ general maintenance	1,770	1,034
Install new fire alarm system	2,070	-
Refurbishment of front entrance of HQ	-	3,090
CCTV and alarm system upgrade	-	1,758
Waste disposal	196	-
Sundry expenses	673	375
AGM and trustee expenses	90	-
HQ Cleaning	429	-
Sub total	13,519	10,228
Fundraising expenses		
Bingo evenings	425	-
Sub total	425	-
Total Gross Expenditure	13,944	10,228

Asset and investment purchases, etc.

-

-

Total payments

13,944

10,228

Net of receipts/(payments)

(5,073)

10,489

Cash funds last year end

51,945

41,456

Cash funds this year end

46,872

51,945

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

	2021/22	2020/21
	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	£	£
Cash funds		
Bank current account (includes £238.67 funds ringfenced for JOTA (2020/21 £238.67))	24,740	39,777
Bank deposit account	20,036	10,032
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service	2,081	2,081
Cash/Floats	15	55
Total cash funds	46,872	51,945
Non monetary assets for charity's own use		
Land and buildings	266,240	257,237
Scouting equipment, furniture etc	42,112	40,688
Steel container	5,258	5,081
Steel container contents	3,190	3,082
Sub total	316,800	306,088
Liabilities		
Other liabilities	-	-
Sub total	-	-

Signature

Print Name

Chair

Treasurer

Chairman's Report 2022

Thank you for joining us for our Annual Review and A.G.M.BBQ 2022.

I, as Chairman would like to thank the leaders, assistants and helpers for all their hard work during the past 12 months which has been quite difficult for everyone. They have organized lots of interesting and fun activities. face to face and via zoom.

The young people have really enjoyed what they have been doing. This year we have had several young leaders helping. I would like to welcome Helen who has taken over the weekly evenings and Ruth, the administration of the Beaver Colony. All 3 sections are now up and running.

I would like to thank Keith, our Group Scout Leader, Linda, our secretary, Sarah, our Treasurer and members of the Executive Committee for their support and hard work this year. We have said goodbye to Grahame, our deputy Group Scout Leader who has retired from our group and is now part of the leadership team for district kayaking and nights away adviser. We wish him luck in his new ventures.

I would also like to thank Gill for covering the hiring's of the scout HQ.

Our main fund-raising events this year has been our Christmas and Easter Family bingos. A great time was had by all. Over the two events we raised over £750. Thank you to everyone who attended. The money raised will go to supporting the young people of the group.

We also attended the Vicars Cross Fun Day during August Bank Holiday where we had activities for people to join in and a recruiting tent.

We joined the congregation at Plemstall Church for The Remembrance Sunday Service and held our annual Carol Service at Vicars Cross United Church in December

If you have any fund-raising ideas for the future, please do not hesitate to come forward with them. We need your help and support.

I hope every young person in the group we continue to enjoy coming and joining us and that we will be successful for many years to come.

Thank you to you, the parents, the young people and anyone that I may have forgotten.

If you are interested in joining our Executive Committee and supporting the leaders, it is an important role in the running of the Scout Group please have a word with one of us.

We usually hold our meetings every 6 to 8 weeks.

Group Chairperson

Denise Huxley

Group Scout Leader's Report for AGM 15th July 2022

I am so pleased to welcome you all today to our Annual General Meeting and Cestrian Annual Review 2022 here back face to face after having to do this online via Zoom for the past two years!

I am pleased to say that following the summer break in 2021, we were able to restart all our sections face to face having followed all Scout Association guidance which fell in line with the National Youth Agency (NYA). Our beavers and two cub packs had successfully managed to do this after satisfactory approval of quite rigorous risk assessments prior to the summer break last year and are now back to normality.

The past year has again resulted in families and individuals having to adapt to a situation never seen before in our lifetime. Covid-19 has caused a lot of stress and anxiety for many people and also has had the potential to affect the mental health and wellbeing of many of us.

I am very proud of our leadership team who took on board the importance of keeping in touch with our young people and families and therefore took on the challenge of continuing virtual scouting digitally online mainly on the Zoom platform during the lockdown periods, which was welcomed by many of our families. Well done.

Our numbers this year have increased and at the date of the census in January our current membership numbers were recorded as 22 Beaver Scouts, 41 Cubs split evenly over the two cub packs and 11 Scouts supported by 15 Full time leaders and 3 Young Leaders, so needless to say we are still providing lots of great scouting and activities that our young people enjoy and want to be part of, as do many more indicated by our waiting list, and the 50,000+ young people nationally on waiting lists! – there is no reason why you also shouldn't be a part of this great movement, there are roles for everyone, either uniformed as a leader or in many helper roles, please ask me or the team for more details – we all do what we do for the benefit of the young people (your children), so please give some thought to volunteering what skills you can offer to help your children and others like them to develop into well balanced young members of their community and society to prepare them with skills for life. After the events of the last two years of Covid-19 restrictions, now is the ideal time to get involved as scouting moves forward and back into some normality.

We said goodbye to Nung in September as she went off to University in York, but it wasn't long before she was offered the role of District Youth Commissioner over there! but she still pops in to our meetings when home during holidays and continues to be inspirational to young people and adults alike. At Easter this year we welcomed Daniel back from his skiing instructor job to help as an assistant Beaver leader as well as starting his new District role as Assistant District Youth Commissioner.

The other major change to our leadership team this year was saying goodbye to Grahame our DGSL who has retired from the Group to focus on his other District roles with Water activities and nights away permits, we wish him well as he has been a great asset to the Group. I must thank Grahame for stepping in last summer to take over from Kristy as "caretaker" Beaver leader which he did for two terms until retiring at Easter to keep that section operational with help from other members of our leadership team until we could find a new beaver leader..... So I'm happy to report that after a number of conversations, an old scouting friend of mine, Helen, tentatively agreed to take this on with the help of Ruth a parent who has taken on the Beaver admin side leaving Helen to run the weekly meetings with the help of Denise, Gill, Andrew and myself and some parent helpers when needed. So welcome Helen, you are doing an amazing job with the beavers and hopefully you feel part of our Cestrian family.

We continue to operate one Beaver colony run by Helen, assisted by other members of our leadership team and one of our Young Leaders Andrew, two cub packs, Tribuni Pack on a Tuesday run by Gill, Paul, Chris assisted by Danielle and Harry and Centurion Pack on a Wednesday run by Rachel, Jonathan, Vicki and Alec now that he has returned North again and assisted by myself, and Ben one of our Young Leaders and Nung helping when she is back from University in York.

The Scout section has now restarted and is steadily growing back in numbers and is run by David ably assisted by Jen, Alex, Harry, Connor and one of our Young Leaders Harry Masher. So my thanks to you all for keeping the sections very much alive and kicking and the young people enthused during a very challenging period.

I am very proud and privileged to work with such a fantastic dedicated bunch of people here at Cestrian and although we operate for the benefit of our young members none of this is possible without the total dedication and commitment from all the leaders and helpers and executive committee members who make Cestrian Scout Group the group it is, so I would like to say a very **big thank you to you all** as I know it is not always easy juggling scouting, work and your own family lives. I would like to thank Denise Huxley our Group Chairperson for all the support she has given me as GSL and for all her catering expertise on camps and group functions, to Grahame Polley our DGSL who tirelessly worked away in the background doing all those jobs I ask of him until he retired from the Group at Easter, to Linda our secretary and Sarah our treasurer who between them have now taken on roles that Grahame has handed over , and also to Rachel my wife for her continuous support and encouragement.

I do not wish to steal the thunder from any of our sections, so please read their reports as attached.

I would however like to say we have just had a brilliant pre Chamboree Wednesday pack cub camp and sleepover for the older beavers at Bickerton, as most had not camped or been away from home before, and I have to say they were all excellent with none of the issues we were expecting. This means we can go off to Chamboree 2022 feeling much happier that everyone will have a great time at this international camp which happens every four years with over 4000 young people camping and enjoying some pretty amazing activities, just hoping this lovely weather stays.

Many of our Cestrian team have a role in helping me with my other hat on as Producer of Chester Gang Show, so my thanks to them all for that **extra** commitment – after no show in 2021 due to the ongoing Covid-19 situation, I took a gamble with my very cloudy crystal ball that things would be back to near normal in February this year, which paid off and we had probably one of our best shows for a number of years, so if you have not seen Gang Show then book your seats early for February half term 2023. The gang were invited to perform at the Storyhouse as part of the week long shows the charity AmaSing put on at the end of June with over 500 primary school children taking part, such a fantastic opportunity and a very special moment.

Finally a big thank you to all our young members for turning up each week and enjoying your scouting, long may it continue as we normalise after the pandemic, you will be thankful in years ahead for the skills for life you learnt (whether knowingly or not) during your scouting career. And lastly a big thank you to you their parents and families for supporting and encouraging your children so that they can enjoy their scouting and develop into well balanced young members of their community and society.

Scouting does make a difference.

Thank you all for attending this meeting and enjoy the rest of your evening with our BBQ party and inflatable assault course!

Keith Harding
Group Scout Leader





We prepare young people with #skills for life

Beaver Report 2021 - 2022



We've had a very fun filled busy time at beavers over the last year.

During the autumn term, we looked up to the skies and found out about planets and constellations.

We had spaghetti and marshmallow pioneering building challenge to see which team could build the tallest tower!

Another evening, we looked after our well-being and the Beavers designed their own Worry monsters which were transferred to Worry Pebbles for them to take home.



Christmas, we joined in with the Groups Carol service which involved a practise evening of singing campfire and Christmas songs.

Beavers had a Christmas party which was lots of fun; we also went to the Mini golf adventure at Cheshire oaks for a special treat



During spring term, we enjoyed celebrating Chinese New Year and sampled various dishes. Remaining in the kitchen, the Beavers made their own pancakes with various toppings!



This year we were lucky to have 2 beavers (Ellie & Leon) take part in the Chester Scout Gang Show at the Kings School and they both did us proud!

A craft evening involved us making cards and a gift for Mother's Day.

I'd like to take the opportunity to say thank you to Graham who kept beavers going up until Easter.

From the summer term, I became the evening leader and I'm lucky to have a job share partner, Ruth, who is dealing with the administration and paperwork for the beaver section.

The Beavers have worked exceptionally hard this term and have managed to complete 2 Beaver Activity Badges - 17 Experiment badges were awarded for those who attend both science evenings where they made oobleck, light spinners, learnt about static electricity and made a volcano.



17 Health and fitness badges have also been presented for 2 weeks activities on healthy eating (making fruit Kebabs), creating Posters and taking part in various physical activities.

Not forgetting our recent trip to Meadow Lea Farm which was amazing I think the beavers mostly enjoyed the biscuits and drinks at the end!

I would like to say a massive thank you to all my helpers - Denise and Gill for keeping the children safe checking them in/out and for their support every week. I would like to say thank you to Keith our Group Scout Leader for his on-going support, attending every beaver meeting. Our Young Leader Andrew who turns up every week organises the games and runs activities. Recently, Daniel has joined Beavers to help with the weekly meetings and not forgetting the parents, who helped out. Without all this extra help, we would not be able to run a varied programme. I would like to take this opportunity to ask anyone thinking they may like to help one night or on a regular basis please ask, there is always something we can give you to do.

Wishing you all a very happy summer, looking forward to the start of a new term in September full of fun and challenges.

Helen

TRIBUNI CUB REPORT 2022

Another year packed full of activities and achievements

Congratulations to,

Lottie Abbott Beck, Ava Parkinson, Nye Egan –Simon.

Elliott Brown, Sam Oare, Olaf Dorozik, have all achieved their Chief Scout Sliver Award,

We had ten cubs Attend the District Damboree at Neston taking part at Archery, Fire Lighting Making a Catapult and Crafts.

Our Carol Service held at the Vicars Cross Church this year

We did three Christmas Carols, Jingle Bells, Wish you A Merry Christmas, and You've got a Friend in Me signed using Makaton.

Thank you Danielle for teaching us all so well.

We entered a team of six for the District Bowling Competition.

Coming in first place. Congratulations to Jake, Ava, Jude, Lottie, Marcin, Lena excellent team work



We also had a day trip to R.A.F Cosford The cubs completed their stage one Air Activities badge, Great day and enjoyed by everyone.

This year Maya, Lena, Lottie, Marcin were part of Chester Gang Show, Brilliant acting and singing from all the cast.

Other activities we have enjoyed at our weekly meetings are Ready Steady Cook, Taskmaster, Marshmallow Pioneering.

Olympics Evening, Fire Lighting, Cheese Rolling Competition.

Learning our different knots and how to correctly do them. Map reading and how to use compass correctly and lastly we did Tie Dye, we had some lovely patterns on our T-shirts.

As always we end our year with our water fight which everyone enjoys including leaders.

I would like once again to say a big thank you to Chris for keeping me on track with the paper work and emails. Danielle for all her great programming ideas and skills. Thank you Paul for your continuing support at all the meetings. Thanks Harry for helping at our weekly meetings.

Thank you David for being there when we need the extra help and also a big thank you for letting me win this year.

Gill
Akela

Centurion Cub Pack Report 2022



This Year has seen the Cub section go from strength to strength with an increase in numbers and a return to 'normal' Scouting.

Cubs returned in September, and we had a getting to know you night alongside some outdoor soft archery. Whilst the nights remained light, we visited the Gowy Park for a short stroll, some tracking and a wide game.

An exciting new activity was a visit to Meadow Lea farm to learn all about dairy farming and diversification.



By October, the cubs embraced The Great Cub Bake Off, creating some rather impressive Show Stoppers on a Space theme.

This year we have been very creative in making puppets and musical instruments. In November, we enjoyed watching fireworks and munching on gooey marshmallows melted on makeshift trays with sawdust set on fire.

Just before Christmas, it was time for, I'm a Cub get me out of here, allowing cubs to explore their senses through a range of challenges.



Cubs enjoy earning badges, and the Spring term allowed many to be achieved, including Air Activities, Scientist, Global Issues and more creative ones.

In May, we returned to Caldry Valley to learn more about nature and enjoy being in the outdoors. We continued to get out and about with a trip to the river and a spot of Bell Boating. All the cubs had a great time, thanks to Alec and Dave, our Scout Leader.



Just before the half-term break, we celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with an indoor street party (due to the rain!) with bunting, traditional party food and a quiz about our monarch.

By the time you read this, the summer term programme will be complete, with us getting out of the HQ as much as possible – enjoying athletics, an evening of knots and pioneering culminating in a chariot race, navigation skills around Vicars Cross, a walk around Chester Walls and a Family walk and Picnic in Delamere Forest.

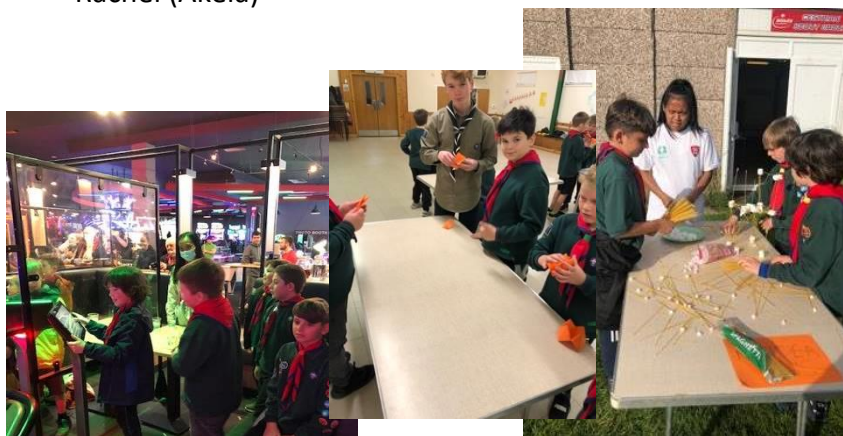
We are looking forward to camping again this summer with Chamboree on the horizon and an overnight camp at Sandstone HQ, just off the Sandstone Trail.

A big thank you must go to the leadership team (Vicki, Jonny, Alec, and Ben) for their commitment to an exciting programme and for giving the young people a fantastic experience.

Last autumn, we said goodbye to Nung as she moved to York University, but you may have seen her around as she continues to help out during holidays.

A huge thank you to all our Cubs and parents for your continued support and getting the children to the right venues.

Rachel (Akela)





After almost 18 months break due to Covid, it was great to get back to face to face meetings in September. During the extended break, many of the troop's former members had moved on with only a few returning for the restart. However, together with a cohort of older cubs that had been patiently waiting for us, we had a core group to get things going again. The smaller troop brought a different dynamic but we soon adapted and readily got stuck in to the activities. These included fire lighting, pumpkin carving, pyrography, bonfire night food, hot air balloons and stop motion animation. We also took some time to develop core scouting skills for rope work and map reading including making contour models.



In December we held our Christmas sleepover - the first night away for anyone in the group in two years. The reintroduction of face masks just before did make things a bit awkward but we didn't let it get in the way of the fun with games, Christmas crafts and the ever popular Christmas dinner breakfast. In the New Year the activities included building crazy golf courses, testing scouts

command and control skills in a police incident exercise, building an indoor caving run, Chinese shadow puppets, and a crystal maze challenge.



We put pioneering skills into practice with long handled pancake cooking and building indoor catapults before scaling up to a full monkey bridge.



As we moved into summer we built bug hotels and bottle rockets, tackled team building challenges, learnt about internet safety, played wide games, tried some backwoods cooking, and competed in an athletics night. Over the year the troop has continued to grow in size as older cubs move up to join us along with a steady trickle of new members joining from outside the group. We're looking forward to the year ahead, with some more great activities including the fantastic Chamboree camp in the summer.

Cestrian Scout Group AGM and Annual Review 2021

Date: 9th July 2021 7:00

Location: Zoom Online Meeting

In Attendance: Keith Harding, Rachel Harding, Denise Huxley, Grahame Polley, Alan Wilding, Gill Owen, Sarah Oliver, David Broady, Vicki Courtney, Linda Wynne, 1 Parent Helen and son Toby.

1. Welcome by Group Scout Leader (GSL)

Keith Harding opened the meeting with a short prayer and welcomed the district commissioner Alan Wilding. A vote was held to proceed with the AGM online, All in agreement.

2. Apologies For Absence

Apologies were received from David Watson, Kristy Collins, Chris Huxley-Clowes, Danielle Huxley and Harry.

3. Approval of 2020 AGM minutes

The minutes of last year's AGM were signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

4. Approval of accounts for the year ending 30th April 2021. Treasurers Report.

The accounts were approved – See Treasurers report attached to the group review.

The main points were,

- Subscriptions were down this year. None were paid due to Covid 19. Only membership fees were paid.
- The gift aid was from the previous year (2019/20)
- The group received grants of £18, 000
- There has been no HQ hire or fundraising this year.
- Some large maintenance projects have been undertaken such as the entrance, new CCTV and alarm systems.
- In total, the group has £51,941 in the bank accounts.

5. Group Scout Leaders Report

Keith's report is included in the group review – The main points were,

- After a strange 16/17 months of Covid 19, scouting has just turned from amber to yellow readiness levels.
- He praised the scouting families and the leadership teams for their hard work with risk assessments and all being able to return to face to face scouting, with the exception of the scouts, who will return next term. The numbers of our group have decreased as also seen nationally particularly with the Scouts section.
- There was no gang show this year – hopefully that will resume in February 2022.
- He said thankyou and goodbye to Brandon, Laura and Kristy and addressed the need for a new Beavers leader and assistant.
- Nung – one of our young leaders is off to university after receiving the inspirational Diana award for her anti bullying campaign.
- He congratulated the team and the committee for producing good scouting under pressure.
- Jay and Kristy both received chief Scouts awards for good service
- Paul received a medal of merit
- Gill and Rachel both received their 30 years service medals

6. Chairpersons Report

Denise's report is included in the group review

Denise thanked everyone for all their hard work this year and congratulated those whom had gained awards. She also appealed for any help that anyone could give.

7. Nomination and approval for group chairperson

Denise Huxley was nominated for chairperson and is happy to continue.

Proposer: Grahame Polley

Seconded: Gill Owen

8. Election of Group Secretary

Linda Wynne was nominated for group secretary and is happy to continue

Proposer: Denise Huxley

Seconded: Vicki Courtney

9. Election of Group Treasurer

Sarah Oliver was nominated for group treasurer and is happy to continue

Proposer: Keith Harding

Seconded: Grahame Polley

10. Election of auditors

Our accounts are to be checked over by an independent person that Sarah works with

Proposer: Denise Huxley

Seconded: Sarah Oliver

11. Election of group executive committee members

Dave Watson was nominated to continue on the executive committee

Proposer: Keith Harding

Seconded: Denise Huxley

No new members were nominated

12. Approval of the group scout leaders nominations to the group executive committee

Chris Huxley-Clowes was nominated as a leader to continue on the executive committee.

Proposer: Keith Harding

Seconded: Denise Huxley

13. District Commissioners Review

This was presented by Alan Wilding, he congratulated Nung and the other leaders on their achievements and reflected upon lockdown, zoom meetings and virtual camps. Cestrian has taken part in two sofarees, a winter camp, a virtual gang show and a district virtual cub craft competition, in which they achieved second place! He hopes that September will bring some normality.

14. Presentations and Awards

Alan Wilding presented Paul Wright his medal of merit certificate, Denise and Steve Huxley their 15 years' service certificates, Rachel Harding and Gill Owen their 30 years' service certificates, Alex Coker his 5 years of service certificate and Dave Mullocks 30 years of explorers certificate. Denise presented Kristy Collins, Nung Sirisot, Laura Farrington, Brandon Hone and Shirley Polley with leavers gifts and thanked them for their service.

15. Vote of Thanks

Grahame Polley thanked Alan Wilding for attending our zoom AGM. He thanked the committee and the leaders, Helen for representing the parents and hopes that scouting will soon return to normal.

Keith closed with a prayer.

The meeting closed at 7:47

Signed

Date