

33rd Norwich Scout Group



Scouts

Annual General Meeting

Report 2020/2021

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AGM ANNUAL REPORT 2020/2021

Contents

- Chairs Report
- Group Scout Leader Report
- Treasurer – Financial Statement
- Beaver Section
- Cubs Section
- Scout Section
- Fundraising
- Jessopp Road Development

Group Chair Report – Dawn Inger

I would just like to say how dedicated the volunteers are and how they have tried to and successfully engaged with the children during lockdown particularly online. I am overwhelmed by their enthusiasm, and I hope to continue working alongside the team for a while as chair.

It's great to see to the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts back to Jessopp road and hear about their exciting activities they have planned. I am also looking forward to meeting people in the flesh as so far most of the meetings have been via zoom.

There is plenty of great plans ahead including new building but importantly lots and lots of great plans for the children to continue having fun and learning.

Dawn Inger, Chair.

Group Scout Leader Report – Andrew Parle

This AGM completes my third year as Group Scout Leader and this last year has a once in a generation event. We will all remember it for the rest of our lives.

Within our group what has happened and what we have achieved is incredible! The children have proven incredibly resilient much more than us adults. But as a group of adult volunteers they have gone beyond again and again and achieved so much! I am so very proud to be part of this amazing Scout group!

If we glance back over the last year, our group leaped straight onto zoom when many other never did! We helped each other adapt, we learnt new technology, we camped in our back gardens, and we tried to make weekly Scouting normal when the world around was anything but normal.

Then when we had a glimmer of hope and rules eased a little, we did everything in power to make sure we got back outside (in the rain and dark) so the children could enjoy the time with friends, again trying to be normal.

As we leave the worst of this terrible pandemic, our group is now stronger because of what the children and adults achieved during Covid!

The group is full in all sections, with a waiting list also in every section. We are investing heavily in new and better equipment to enable the children to have the best experiences they can with us.

Also, its right to mention the trustees of the group (Group Executive) as they play their role to ensure we have a strong and stable financial group. They are

for foundations and without them the group will collapse. Thank you for their time and efforts and many late-night zooms over the last year!!

Finally thank you to the Young People as you also inspire us adults, to do more and more exciting things. Have fun and be brave, the future is bright and ours for the taking!

Thank you, Andrew

Treasurer – Financial Statement - John Butcher

Separate report will be emailed

Beaver Section – Susan Flynn, Beaver Scout Leader

What a year we have all had not the best for anyone!

At the moment we have 22 beavers and a waiting list, 10 beavers went up to Cubs good luck to them all.

In spite of the pandemic we still managed to run beavers via zoo with much appreciated help from Andrew, in that time beavers did lots of activities including a stay at home camp which was a great success, also I would like to thank everyone involved in making the One Show such a wonderful surprise for me it's something that will stay with me for ever, the time and effort Andrew beavers and their parents put into it was just fantastic so thank.



Our plans for next year are to take the beavers to the pantomime, a day out a weekend camp and hopefully join in any district event's that may take place.

Let's all hope for a better year next year.

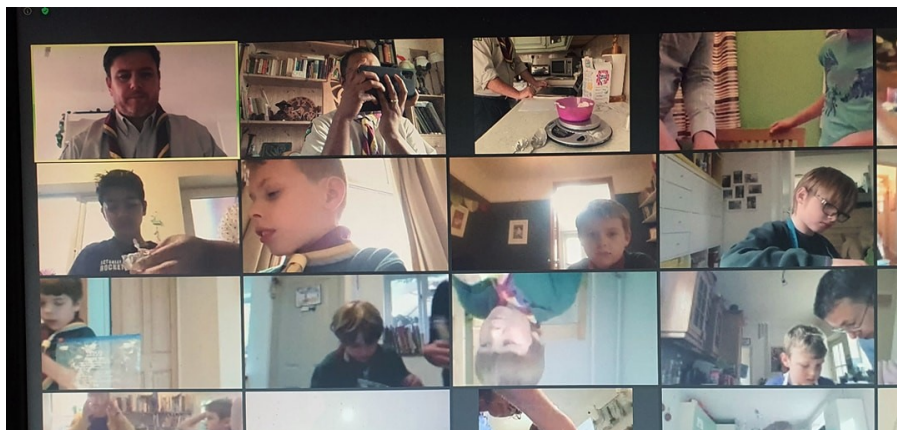
My thanks to Andrew, Jenny, Suzanne, Amber and Ethan not forgetting Oscar over the last year.

At the start of the year the lockdown was still in place so we could not do anything until zoom meetings could be set up. These started at the beginning of May. Unfortunately my computer wasn't up to scratch so huge thanks to Andrew (GSL) who set up the zoom capability in the first place and ran the meetings with assistance from Hathi every week and Chil and Bagheera.

A lot of activities were held each week ranging from games, scavenger hunts, Chefs Badge, Entertainer badge, and including working to gain their Personal Challenge badge. I did set, via e-mail the opportunity for the Cubs to gain their Book Reader badge and had very good work sent back. A fantastically funny zoom session with Skittleman was put on for the Cubs, lots of laughing! In July there was the Great Indoor Weekender which was put together by Norfolk Scouts. We had some great pictures put on our Facebook page of those taking part. It was great fun!



In September we were able to meet face to face back at Jessopp Road, albeit with some restrictions which meant splitting the pack into two groups for the evening and maintaining strict Covid-19 hygiene procedures. This certainly made for challenging ways to come up with activities and games whilst keeping social distancing going. We managed to meet until the beginning of November, when unfortunately another lockdown came. So back to zoom.....



This time I had the capability of connecting to zoom so was able to run these meetings with Hathi's help (as I am not so technically gifted!) and Chil. Again, lots of activities and badge work was done. Hathi usually getting the Cubs

started with a scavenger hunt. The Communicators badge was started, joke telling sessions, run-around games, juggling, Kahoot quiz (thanks to Bagheera) and much more.

After the break for Christmas we were back to zoom meetings. I had discovered I had developed the ability to put a decent Power Point together which helped enormously with doing the badge work. We covered Global Issues and Personal Safety, and put together some 'dobble' games. We had a brilliant zoom session with Horus Birds of Prey who had three birds with him to talk about and answered lots of questions afterwards.

We came to the end of the difficult year we had in March. We had about half the usual amount of Cubs we had registered with us attend the zoom meetings, but thanks to everybody who took part and those who did not attend the zoom meetings, but kept with us throughout the year.



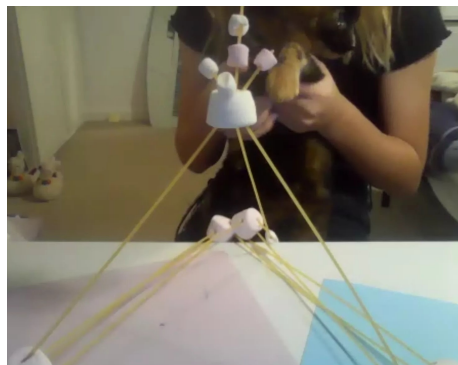
The support has been incredible and we cannot thank you enough for sticking with us and helping us to continue with the growth of Cubs.

As always, the Cub Pack cannot run without the fantastic support from Hathi, Kaa, Chil and Bagheera. My heartfelt thanks to them, for their help and support.
Akela

From the first lockdown, it has indeed been a tumultuous time. Sadly we had to move to Zoom until September 2020.



We then managed a couple of months before we were again in lockdown and Zoom for November. A couple of weeks, including the popular firework display, then as you know another lockdown and again the Zoom until early this year.



I am proud to say that the Scouts all stuck with it, and indeed we had several online investitures, 6 Scouts managed to complete their gold awards and our numbers went up. The scouts kept plugging away at it.

We then returned and with a distanced program, the Scouts got out and about in the community with various Challenges.



Particular mention must be made of the Young Leaders who took over running the Zoom meetings after Christmas as time was tight for me with my work at the hospital, and now we are back to face-to-face, they have been running 1 in 4 of the meetings.

Truly youth led.

At last this August we got away for a weeks camping.



Starting at Jessopp Road for a couple of days, to break them in gently after nearly 2 years of no camping, we then went off to the North Norfolk Coast near the sea for a few days. It was a more relaxed camp with the emphasis on fun and relaxing away from everything. A chance for the young people just to feel back to normal for a week, away from the troubles of the pandemic.



I have to say the young people were fantastic all week. Indeed I wish I were still there.

We are planning the next camps and indeed next weekend 34 young people are off to the North Norfolk Railway. Should be fun.

The goal has been to try and keep the Scouts having 'their' thing on a Friday night, to keep some stability and continuity, whilst everything else was chaotic. I think we did succeed, and we will continue to do so.

I would like to thank all leaders for all their help over the last year; it has been difficult with the pandemic in the background. A special thanks to Luke must be made as I have depended on him heavily as a sounding board and for support with getting things done at Jessopp outside the normal Friday nights to help keep it running.

And finally a big thanks to my partner Abhirup for supporting me in all that I do.

Kind Regards

Tony Buttifant

Fundraising- Malene Bloomfield

Fundraising report 2020-21

Unfortunately, our fundraising activities were more or less non-existent due to COVID but we did manage to carry out our annual Christmas Tree recycling in the beginning of January 2021. We raised £895 over the weekend and this service is becoming a popular 'event' in the local community as well as a nice little earner!



We had our first summer fete at Jessop Road Saturday 11th September and it was a huge success! Apart from making some money for the redevelopment of Jessop Road we're also hoping to generate awareness of the site as a community site with all it has to offer! Hopefully we'll make it an annual event!

The Christmas Market will return on 28th November and hopefully this will be just as successful (if not more successful) as the 2019 fair was!

After a year of COVID restrictions there's only one way and that's UP!

Jessopp Road Development

Progress over the last year at Jessopp Road has continued and whilst COVID present challenges it didn't stop us moving forward

33rd Norwich Scout Group, Registered Charity: 1035

Some highlights of work achieved in this year are:

- Renaming the building in honour of the leaders who built the main buildings back in the 50's. They are now know as Standley Lodge and Skipper Hall.
- Standley lodge saw the biggest transformation boosted by a £7k grant from Norfolk Community fund and £2k from Tesco bags scheme. This enabled us to rewire, heat, plaster new ceilings, new window, new flooring and decorate throughout.
- We have also fitted out the inside of the shed with purpose-built shelving to enable the children to independently camp in the future
- Created a covered walkway between Standley lodge and "the shed"
- A huge volume of green maintenance like cutting the grass weekly during the summer months, cutting back nettles etc
- Many various smaller jobs for example replacing lights



One of the exciting developments in the last year was gaining full planning permission for our new log cabin style headquarters. We now move into the fundraising phase with grant applications and local events like the summer and Christmas fair. The journey has started but a little way still to go!



All work done on site is by volunteers, the leaders, parents and children. Also all funding comes from the users or grants. So we really appreciate all donations of time or money to Jessopp Road and a big thank you to those people.

But we need more help please – Do you have a skill/trade, or just an hour to lend a pair of hands or can supply needed materials or would like to make a donation. Please get in touch with Tony (Scout Leader) or Andrew (Group Scout Leader)