

Uts 3rd Hayling Group

Annual Report 2003 - 2004



Celebrating 75 years of Scouting on Hayling

1929 - 2004

Group Executive Committee 2003 to 2004

Group Scout Leader	Ian Hawke	
<u>Officers</u>		
Chairman Treasurer Secretary	Dr Philip Blosse Mary Pike Lorraine Haskell	(p)
Specific Roles		
HQ Manager	Position Vacant	
HQ Support Quartermaster Fund Raising	Eric Marston Peter Goddard Carolyn Wager	(p)
Parent Representatives	Karen Newton Marie Telford Jo Hawley Clive Allgood	(p) (p) (p) (p)
General Representatives	Trevor Burden Alan Perfett	
Uniformed Representatives		
Beaver Scouts Aspen Colony Redwood Colony Cub Scouts Jupiter Pack Saturn Pack	Sylvi Rigden Linda Hunter Aaron Pycroft Mandy Hawke	(p) (p) (p)
Scouts Eagle Troop Lion Troop Explorer Scouts	Pete Willingham Jim Simpson	(p)
Nexus Unit Venture Scouts	Wilf Forrow	(p)
Leader	Jeff Greenough	

⁽p) Indicates parent of section member of group (Beaver, Cub, Scout, Explorer)

Group Supporting Roles 2003 to 2004

Finance Team

Subscriptions Secretary Mel Cole Gift Aid Cooridnator Kim Sparling

Subs Administration Sally Jones / Eileen Oakes Jenny Dimment / Jo Jones

HQ Team

Position Vacant HQ Manager **HQ Support** Alan Perfett Caretaker Eric Marsden

HQ Cleaning Nexus Explorers / Eric Marsden

Grounds James Perfett **Lettings Coordinator** Alan Perfett

Leader Support Team

Badge Secretary Nigel Kenny **Second Hand Uniform** Sarah Speller **Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator** Terry Brinnen **Group Photography Team Positions Vacant** Wish List Management Jo Hawley

Promotions & Events

Team Manager Carolyn Wager **Book Sales** Mark Standing

Mandy Hawke / Billy Ault **Ouiz**

Sponsorship Coordinator Position vacant **Promotion Materials Coordinator** Position Vacant

Leader Support Service Team

Team Manager Position Vacant Activities Support Team 10 Names **Drivers Support Team** 1 Name

Transport Manager Position Vacant

Leader Support Skills Team

Life Guards Jan Allgood / Ali Locke

Paul Jackson **Archery Team**

Hillwalking and Climbing Walls Jeff Greenough / Ali Locke

Group Support 2003 to 2004

During the course of the year a number of other people have helped in different ways.

To everyone who has supported us in any way during the past year

Thank You

There are also people, not in uniform or on the executive committee who directly or indirectly contribute to the success of 3rd Hayling from behind the scenes.

This page is an opportunity to mention some of them. Of course this is always dangerous as I know I will miss some. Please accept my apologies if you are one of those I miss. It was not intentional.

Valerie Blosse In many ways Chris Driscoll Auditor

Hayling Islander For their continued Support

ACE / LIONS For their financial support and help Irene Day For her continued support to the Group

Jeanette & Paul Lincoln
Carol & Ian Thomson
Michelle Golden
Jan Allgood
Group Camp Cook
Group Camp Cook
Group Camp Cook
Group Camp Cook

Sarah Sexton & Barclays Bank
Supporting us with their "Make a
Difference" day by painting the HQ.

There are also many of our friends who continue to support our events, year after year and we are extremely grateful and lucky to have this ongoing support.

Also those who each year support our Xmas Post Service

Hayling Hardware
Rae's
Card Boutique
Farm Stores
Belmont Barbers
Stoke Fruit Farm
Country Foods

Red Cross

Roll of Honour 2003/2004

Beaver Scout Section - Chief Scouts Award Bronze

Keiron Ball Redwood Colony Redwood Colony Brynmore Day Joseph Flippence Aspen Colony Jack Golden Aspen Colony Samuel Handley Aspen Colony Aspen Colony Scott Hawley Redwood Colony Scott Hickman Connor Jamieson-Good Aspen Colony Sam Jones Aspen Colony Redwood Colony James Knight Aspen Colony Guy Morgan Harrison Notter Redwood Colony Kane Page Redwood Colony **Thomas Perrin** Redwood Colony Dominic Reed Redwood Colony Marc Rowson Aspen Colony Joe Speller Aspen Colony Oliver Tomkin Redwood Colony **Daniel Wells** Aspen Colony Redwood Colony Harry West



Cub Scout Section - Chief Scouts Award Silver

Tom Austin Saturn Pack Jeremy Cairns-Todd Saturn Pack Joe Dimment Jupiter Pack Robert Durrell Jupiter Pack Oliver Heath Jupiter Pack Tom Hill Saturn Pack Alex Tickner Saturn Pack Jake Whistlecraft Saturn Pack Max Williams Saturn Pack



Scout Section - Chief Scouts Award Gold

Jamie BrayEagle TroopDan HammondLion TroopMatthew KeillerEagle TroopJorden ReedLion TroopJake Wilkinson-ToughLion Troop



Chairman's Report

Sometimes the success of an event exceeds one's wildest expectations – but I can honestly say that this was so for our 75^{th} birthday celebration camp in July.

During the hectic preparations, there were times when we wondered why we ever thought of organising such a large event - our treasurer Mary Pike was looking decidedly pale at the thought of depleting our hard-



earned reserves (but in fact the event broke even), our Group Scout Leader Ian Hawke was frantically trying to organise some unbelievably adventurous activities and I was desperately trying to find memorabilia and ex-Scouts for the reunion on the Saturday afternoon.

The fact that the wind blew continuously throughout the weekend didn't matter - somehow camping makes you immune to such vagaries. To see so many parents camping with their children was particular pleasing. In fact, at times it was difficult to tell whether the children or the adults were having the most fun. It was also a delight to see so many ex-members, some being re-united after forty years or more.

But there was an underlying success that may be not so apparent. The event showed to many, perhaps for the first time, what



Scouting can offer our young people today. That Scouting is fun and also 'cool'. That we are moving with the times to help develop our young people for today,s challenges. Obviously Peter Duncan, of Blue Peter fame, recognised the challenges and opportunities that the Scout movement offers when he recently accepted the post of Chief Scout.

The large number of adults supporting our birthday camp and also the subsequent influx of new leaders is testimony to the success and underlying benefits of such an event. So well done and thank you to everyone involved.

Now we must build on this success and look forward to our 76th year and beyond - a time for ambitious yet realistic plans. This requires effort, imagination and a range of skills. In this context, it is encouraging to see that our plan last year to allocate small and manageable tasks to a wider range of helpers has progressed well, for example with collection of subscriptions.



We will continue on this route of manageable tasks and wider involvement, thus enabling those with commitments at home, work or with other organisations to also assist Scouting on Hayling. I am afraid there is no pay or fringe perks! What we offer in return is a sense of achievement and enjoyment in developing our young people on Hayling. We like to think we do a good job but with your help I am sure we could do it even better.

I take this opportunity to thank all those who have helped this year in whatever role and especially those in the Executive Committee who provide the backbone of our organisation.

And did someone mention that leaky roof in the HQ? It hasn't been forgotten and is still part of our improvement plan - but some things take a little longer.

Dr Philip Blosse Group Chairman

Group Scout Leader's Report April 2003 to March 2004

What a year (or 18 months as it is now!!).

This written report covers mainly the period from April 2003 to March 2004, but I could not produce a report in November and not refer to our brilliant camp in July. This report is therefore in two sections covering the formal period and since that time!! (This means that I have already done part of my report for next year!!!).

As you will see elsewhere in this report, our numbers remain strong, our accounts healthy, our achievements in terms of awards and badges maintained at our normally high level. As a group we continue to offer an incredible range of opportunities for the young people of Hayling and also take part in all District and many County and national events.

We have further developed the thinking with our "Beyond 2002" plans and also our "Community 2000" programme continues to enhance our liaison with other community groups with Tai Chi and Kick Boxing now a regular feature in our HQ along with visits from Scouts, Guides and a Church Group all of which included a request to Jacko to run an Archery base.

The success of 3rd Hayling Scouts is that whatever we do, whoever we talk to, wherever we go, our youth membership is at the centre of our endeavours. This exists not only within the leadership teams but also extends to our Executive Committee, our support teams, our sponsors and our friends.

During the year we have presented over 700 badges with 34 achieving their top award for their section. Once again members of the group camped for over 1000 nights with weekend camps on Hayling Island, across Hampshire and in Derbyshire with summer camps in Devon and Switzerland.

The weekly meetings, the backbone to any youth organisation continue to provide an amazing scope of ideas and programmes and just reading the section reports shows just how creative our leaders are. It is this variety that allows us to remain one of the strongest groups around.

It is very interesting to see what activities provide most enjoyment. Just look at how often lighting fires, cooking and eating feature, as well as getting out and about!!! Whilst we still need the adventurous activities, these alone do not retain our members and it is the weekly fun that does this!!. Whatever the age range, we should all be extremely proud of our leaders who continue to offer exciting scouting on a weekly basis free of charge!!

Good scouting requires serviceable equipment and facilities which today also means money but more importantly the willingness of people to volunteer to give their time to specific activities. The strength of our group demonstrates how lucky we are to receive this type of support.

- Our subscription income is augmented by Gift Aid (over £1500) and we are all grateful to Mandy Hawke for the tremendous effort she puts into this. From April 2004, this role was taken over by Kim Sparling who volunteered as part of our "Beyond 2002" programme.
- Our Book Fayres continue to grow in terms of income (over £1200 per year), numbers visiting and the distance people travel to attend. This is testament to Mark Standing and his team of willing workers.
- Our quiz night is very well established with Billy Ault our resident question master and Mandy Hawke, Jo Hawke & Fiona Jorden-Harrison putting together the feast. Each year we see new teams and now over 50% of the teams have evolved from Parents in the group - who keep coming back. Of course the £800 raised is also important!
- And our established Xmas Post, 22 years old brings in between £800 and £1000 per year with the Explorers organising the sorts and you our parents helping with the deliveries. We are both dependent and grateful for the shops around Hayling who sell our stamps.

We are also very fortunate to receive a range of donations each year, including:-

- Irene Day, a long time supporter of the group continues to look after us in many ways and has been responsible in allowing us to modernise much of our camping equipment.
- ACE with the Hayling to Paris Cycle Ride support us each year and in addition added a plaque and name list to our quiz trophy.
- Sarah Sexton applied to Barclays bank to sponsor us in their "Make a Difference" day and as a result of her work teams effort we have

seen an improvement in the decoration of the HQ (Sorry Sarah but we still need to complete the gloss painting of the doors - my fault), a new water heater for the toilet facilities and also a drinking fountain. Thank you Sarah.

 A thank you also to the many friends of Hayling Scouts, individuals and organisations who make donations towards specific events or individuals.

This year also found us at Sainsbury's in Farlington where the whole group took part in a "bag pack for donations" in support of our birthday camp. The £1800 raised was put to good use and exceeded all expectations.

Help comes in a number of ways, we have our leaders and helpers, I have already mentioned the work done by Sarah and her team in the HQ (on Rugby world cup semi-final day!) and Kim Sparling who has taken over the Gift Aid. In addition we have parents who collect the subs at the beginning of each term, Mel Cole who consolidates all of our subs before passing on the details and money to our treasurer. We have various people performing maintenance, a caretaker, HQ cleaners, lawn mowing & hedge trimming, Badge Secretary, ordering and maintaining our stocks, helping at events and we are about to re-introduce 2nd hand uniform. All of these tasks are key to the leaders and although many do not take a great deal of time, they are all invaluable. (See the section on Exec committee and help).

Our Executive committee led by Philip Blosse help to keep things in order and are also provide a focus and vision for the future. This team are trying to make sure we are up with the leaders needs and Scouting's needs on Hayling and this team who oversee much of the background activity that takes place. This year we welcomed new faces to the committee with Jo Hawley, Karen Newton (who has subsequently moved to Canada to escape!!) and Clive Allgood. We did say goodbye to Trevor Burden from the committee but Trevor still does a lot in the background for us and in particular is a key contributor to the Book Fayres.

Communication and publicity of what we achieve are more important than ever and the support we get from the Hayling Islander is a major factor in this communication. We have had articles every month and many photographs, even when my report is a few days late - thanks Pat/Helen.

We have during the reporting year said some goodbye's and hello's to some leaders. A big thank you to Julia Robinson (Redwood Beavers) who is taking a break and to Paul Jennings (Jupiter Cubs) due to work commitments for all they have done. Welcome to Rebecca Simpson (Aspen Beavers), Anita Westbrook & Roger Knight (Redwood Beavers) and thanks Rebecca, Anita & Roger for what you are about to do!. Dave Beech who joined Jupiter Beavers has since moved away during but has got the bug and is now helping with a group in Chichester. We have more recently seen leader changes and these are covered in my "Post April 2004 report".

So, what of the future. Scouting is still strong on Hayling and with the continued enthusiasm of all of those involved I can not see this changing. We do have some areas to focus on in the coming 12 months, including:-

- Continuing to develop the themes of "Beyond 2002", including allocation of some of the remaining supporting roles
- Continuing to work on the necessary HQ improvements
- Updating our communication methods and strengthening our links with local organisations and businesses.
- Always looking for ways to do it better and more efficiently
- Getting our Fellowship up and running

I am confident that we will see many of these in next years report!!

Finally, a few thank you's:-

- To our leaders who continue to give freely of their time each week and provide the backbone of Scouting on Hayling. Their dedication and commitment is second to none.
- To our Executive committee and support functions for their continued commitment and effort
- To Val Blosse who continues to provide an incredible photocopying service, which despite my promises to get the requests in earlier, still somehow seem to always be last minute
- To the many people who support us financially, with help at events section and group based or are just there when we need something
- To Phil Blosse, not only our chairman but someone who is always around to bounce ideas off and who helps to keep me on track
- Finally to my family who allow me to continue to join in with this Scouting game

Tan

Group Scout Leader's Report April 2004 to September 2004

OK, it is not normal to add a second report for the following year, but all of us like some current news, don't we. This will be a lot shorter however!

Leader Changes

At the end of their respective summer camps we said a temporary "leader" goodbye to four individuals who have collectively given over 50 years service to Scouting on Hayling.

- Joy Forrow after 15 years working with the Cub, Scouts and more recently the Explorer section has chosen to take a break from the weekly commitment. However Joy is remaining involved with Scouting and the Group and I am sure will be a strong supporter as we get our Fellowship underway.
- Audrey Willingham who has completed over 12 years service with Beavers, Cubs and Scouts is taking on a District appointment, although she will continue to be seen at our group events.
- Wilf Forrow, has brought many hours of fun to the Scout and Explorer sections and although will not be visiting the HQ weekly, will still be involved in events for example in the organisation of the annual "Rhodi Bashing camp".
- Pete Willingham after 10 years with Eagle Troop, the last 3 as leader is also hanging up his weekly woggle but will continue to organise and support our activities.

Many young people have benefited from the skills and enthusiasm of these four and I know we will miss their weekly involvement, however I know that we will all continue to benefit from them albeit in a different way.

My personal thanks to them all for their efforts and contribution over a significant period.

All is not lost and it is good to welcome back some individuals who have previously been involved in Scouting to take over the reins.

Eagle Troop is now led by Ed Harrison who has moved across from helping with Lion Troop. Ed is very ably assisted by Pete Goddard and Dave Eacott both of whom continue to work with the troop. In addition we welcome back Matt Pike, David Hersee, Mitchell Webb and Paul Bryant all of whom were Scouts in the 1980's and Venture Scouts in the 1990's. This new team has already settled down and continuing the fine traditions of Scouting with Eagles.

Dominic Howell, a former Scout, Venture, Leader with Hayling and also our previous District Commissioner has decided that he has missed the weekly challenge of Scouting and with Tony Baker, another former leader with the group have chosen to spend Thursday evenings (and other times) with the Nexus Explorer Unit.

Whilst we are still looking to strengthen our leadership, the return to active Scouting of these 6 is really great to see. Thanks to all of you for what you are now doing for the young people of Hayling.

75th Birthday Camp

We have lots of Group Camps but this one was really something. Here are some quotes:-

- The best Group Camp I have ever attended (Quite a few!!)
- The best camp I have attended (A Scout)
- I was amazed at the activities on offer, no queuing and all free (A Beaver)
- I just had to go our and buy a tent (A Parent)
- I went to camp so my son could sleep, next time I will leave him at home (Another Beaver parent)
- It was great to see some old friends again (An ex Scout from the 1940's)
- The Food was better than expected (A parent who camped)
- Yes, I will come along to a meeting to see what I can do (One of our new leaders with Eagle Troop)
- I remember..... (Many around the campfire in the evening)
- I hope there is another group camp next year

My memories include:-

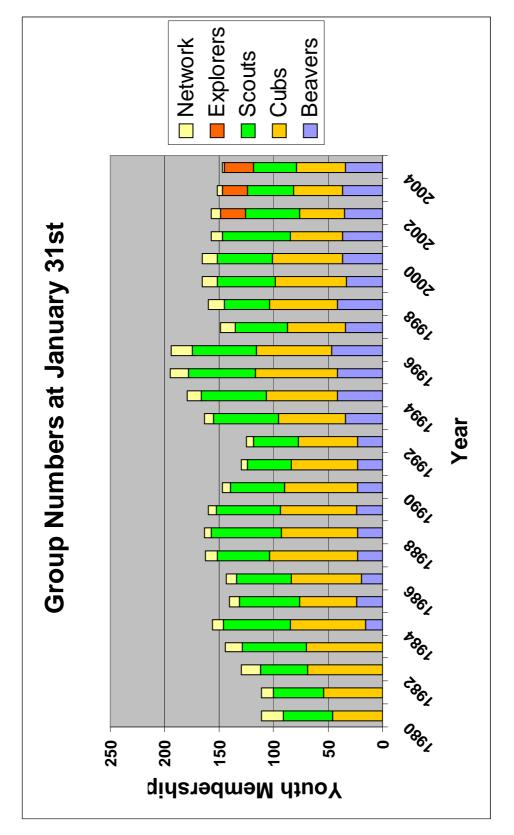
- 250 people camping
- 450 on site during the Saturday afternoon
- a brilliant and noisy camp fire in the evening
- some unusual activities but plenty of traditional ones as well.
- Smiling faces throughout despite the very strong winds
- Adults joining in with the activities
- Plenty of good food
- Meeting lots of my old Scouts again
- Meeting members of the group who Scouted before I arrived on Hayling
- Listening to the reminiscing (lots of it)
- Just standing back on the Sunday and watching youngsters, teenagers, adults, leaders, parents and friends all joining in the challenge together.
- Hanging Up and Taking Down wet tents in the HQ!!!!!!
- Shopping in Tesco's

Just look at the pictures, they tell their own stories.



3rd Hayling Scout Group





The 3rd Hayling Scout Group is a registered charity. Registration number 308136

Beyond 2002 an Update

At our Awards and Presentations evening in June 2002, we launched our latest initiative called "Beyond 2002". The following is from that Annual Report:-

We are therefore today, launching "Beyond 2000" our study into the effective future for Scouting on Hayling. The scope of this project will include all aspects of Scouting from Leaders to our Executive and Management committees, finances to public relations, and all with a specific focus on how we can maximise the help we get whilst minimising the time required from any individual.

In June 2003 we reported on the progress made, in summary this being:-

- how we had defined all of the roles required to run a group of our size,
- how we had started to introduce these roles and fill them from parents and supporters of Scouting on Hayling Island
- how we had started trying to make better use of everyone's time
- our progress on our HQ plans
- our plans to attract ex-members back into the movements.

We also reported on our focus areas for 2004 as:-

2003/2004 will being a focus on the HQ and facilities as we progress the necessary work and also within the leadership team as we look to strengthen this area of the Group.

This year we have continued to make significant progress in some areas, although less than we would have liked in others.

Our successes include:-

- Continue to develop the new structure to the management of the group.
 (See below)
- Subs administrative support for 5 sections (the others will be covered from next term)
- New volunteers to take over the roles of Gift Aid administration, Badge secretary, second hand uniform, HQ maintenance and cleaning.
- Welcoming back ex-scouts into leadership positions within the group and introducing new members to our executive committee.

- We have started to share the workload between the leaders for all of the other things we need to do. For example supporting events, looking after what we have and identifying what we need.
- Changes to structure of leader and executive meetings to make them more effective
- Building an online archive by scanning in photographs, reports etc.
- Increasing the publicity and the use of the Hayling Islander.

Our birthday camp has without doubt helped to enhance our progress, particularly with previous members of the group wanting to give back some of their great experiences for others. The camp also helped to remove some of the myth's that may exist about Scouting amongst those not previously involved and we are confident that this will help us fill the remaining roles.

We did not manage to make as much progress with the HQ (particularly the roof) as we had wished, and this remains a focus for the coming period. We also did not make the progress on the introduction of our Group Fellowship as I had hoped. This is important for us in order that we can offer a way for those interested in maintaining a formal link with the group and the movement. This must be addressed in the next few months particularly with the recent changes in our leadership team. (See GSL report for details).

Throughout all of these changes however we will always remember that we are in this movement for the youth of Hayling Island and that our prime concern must be their welfare and that of the Leaders who weekly give up a lot of their time voluntarily in support of the sections.

We look forward to further progress being reported next year.

Phil Blosse & Ian Hawke

Treasurer's Report

This year's accounts show a balanced year, the turnover has remained steady and there is a very small deficit. Subscriptions are slightly down, but our fundraising has increased. The Quiz raised £850, and the Book Fairs nearly £1400, both tremendous efforts on all concerned.

The scouts and leaders also spent a week bag packing at Sainsburys and raised the incredible sum of £1800, this has gone into the Activity Fund and will go towards the 75th Birthday celebrations, which has taken place after these accounts were closed. We are currently reviewing our subscriptions to decide whether an increase will be required.

The Gift aid received on subscriptions and other donations was up again this year, Mandy once again put in a lot of effort in encouraging parents and doing the paperwork, she has now passed this on to Kim Sparling. We have also received a most generous donation from Irene Day for equipment, and another donation from ACE.

We now have money invested in COIF Charities Deposit Fund, this is a special Fund for charities and provides us with a much better rate of interest, without our money being tied up for any length of time.

Our main expenditure has been the purchase of a new video projector, screen and speakers. This equipment will enable the leaders to use the DVD's, which are now produced for Scouting, to help with training and group activities. We also bought some more lightweight tables, tents and kitchen equipment.

The Explorer scouts are currently District based and their accounts have to be included with Havant District. To simplify the accounting, it is shown on our Accounts as a deduction on income, for their subscriptions and a deduction on expenditure of the same amount, for capitation and use of facilities.

My thanks again to Chris Driscoll for auditing our accounts.

Mary Pike

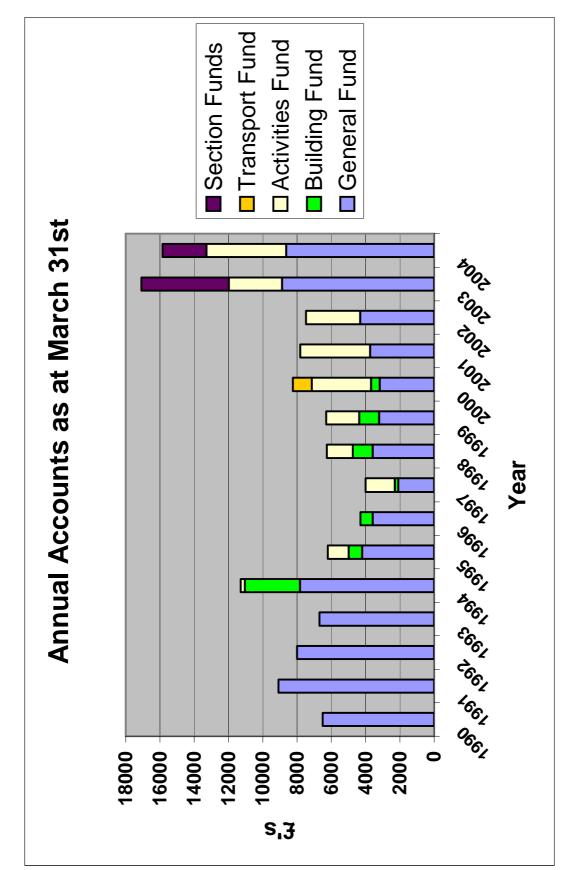
3rd Hayling Scout Group Charity No. 308136 Income and Expenditure Account. Year ended 31st March 2004

2003/04 4086.00 941.13 95.18 711.80 170.35 281.43 939.25 3446.00 16557.62 71.97 241.38 128.85 108.45 324.40 30943.55 1674.37 31559.31 8199.91	7235.22 242.54 29147.08 d in my
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2002/03 INCOME 7619.00 Subscriptions 1149.00 Donations 1680.60 Covenant Scheme/Gift Aid 147.56 Bank Interest 940.00 Facilities hire (HQ and Marquee) 62.77 Photocopying 13742.51 Money exchange, camps & trips 700.00 World Jamboree 170.00 Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme 850.80 Fundraising: Quiz 0.00 Activities Fund(bag packing) 1046.29 Christmas Post 1288.34 Book Fair Other events(fireworks,etc) 30110.60 TOTAL At 31.03.03 Activities Fund 3088.00 Activities Fund 4350.46 Kandersteg Fund 761.45 Camp & Section Funds 8199.91 TOTAL	COIF fund COIF fund Deposit Account Current Account Cash-in-hand TOTAL less: o/s cheques TOTAL Less: Money held on account
2002/03 7619:00 1149:00 1680:60 147.56 940:00 62.77 13742.51 700:00 170:00 1046.29 1288:34 713.73 30110.60 4350.46 761.45 8199.91	FUND STATEMENT - COIF fu 14800.16 Deposit 2342.40 Current 0.00 Cash-in 17142.56 TOTAL 246.74 less: o/s 17082.56 TOTAL 8199.91 Less: M 8882.65 Plus: De



3rd Hayling Scout Group





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Aspen Colony Report



We have had a very busy Beavering year.

We started by doing a lot of work on our interest badges and our Beaver Scout challenge badges. We learnt the Countryside Code, drew pictures, had an insect hunt and went for an observation walk down the

Billy Track towards our Outdoor challenge. We looked at items from Africa and learnt about African people, did 'helping hands' good turns for our mums, and went to the park to play new games together for our Friendship challenge. The Discovery challenge saw us making pirate maps and looking at ordinance survey maps, doing some cooking and learning a campfire song. We made planet mobiles for the Creative badge, and looked after our pets at home then wrote about it for the Animal Friend badge.

Towards the end of the term we had a fun hour on the beach. Fun? Since when does 'only go in up to the top of your legs' mean the bottom of your lip! We survived this only to continue the water theme by finishing the term in my back garden with a water fight. This caused major flooding to no. 66 Church Rd and 68, 64, 62...... plus created a major water shortage....... whilst sluicing down the interior of the kitchen, sun room.....

In the midst of all this we had a fabulous day on the Hayling School field for 'The Fun Day'. The Beavers met up with lots of other members of 3rd Hayling Scouts to do lots of activities and make new friends. We made pizzas and 'doughnuts', did woodwork, played on the bouncy castles, had rides on the jeep, did crafts, got wet on the slide, and generally ran around and made lots of noise.

The autumn term started with some archery. We made mobiles and chocolate apples for Halloween, firework pictures with wax and ink for 5th Nov, and looked at some visiting stick insects. We went to the Cristingle Service at St. Peter's church, Northney, and this went towards the Faith badge.

We decided to tackle one of the Group Award badges - the International Friendship Award, and got together with Saturn Cubs to put on a Christmas show for the parents. We each sorted out some sketches and entertainment and then put it all together on the night. The parents then donated some money with which Jo Hawke treated her children in the Rumanian orphanage to an extra special night out.

We finished up the year looking at things from China and making Chinese hats for Chinese New Year, making peanut cookies and cards for valentines day, and having a 'beyblade' tournament.

I would like to give a big thank you to Dougie Percy and Julie Rigden who are still my Scout / Explorer Scout helpers (they haven't deserted me yet!) and to all my parents who work so hard on their rota evening, without you all Aspen would not be running.

We are now a good way through the new Scouting year and are planning lots of new ideas to keep Aspen moving forward and the boys hammering on the door to be let in on Monday evenings!

SYLVI. (Fox)

Redwood Colony Report

Our year started off with much excitement as the boys had an evening learning archery, under the instruction of our very own Jacko. I'm sure if we had insisted on them wearing green tights and a hat with a feather in it they would have done so, because they all thought they were Robin Hood!



We hosted a Science day for Beavers from across the district, which was great fun. Each section had to run a base, ours was making water filters from plastic bottles filled with mud, cotton wool and sand. The volcanic eruption base proved very popular. All Beavers who attended received their Experiment badge.





Another district event which we took part in was the Explore Activity badge day which was held in February at the 1st Rowlands Castle HQ. We walked together with other Beavers around the Avenue in Stanstead Park exploring the woodland. We had a fantastic turnout, not only almost all of my Beavers, but parents, grandparents and several dogs. The Beavers all gained their Explorer badge and it was agreed by all that the event had been a great success.

We have worked on badges throughout the year and all Beavers moving up to Cubs have achieved their Chief Scout Bronze Award, our top award. Work towards these have included a "Time Lord" evening, making "Dalek Munchies", a nature trail walk down the Billy trail, a quiz evening, a nature evening including the ancient uses of the common Dandelion and tasting Dandelion tea, which most agreed was disgusting and of course oodles of crafts and games.

One memorable evening was spent with Mr Knight who came in and taught us a bit about Anglo Saxon Britain. He brought in various items of clothing, including chain mail, which he made himself and swords and other weapons. We acted out a burial and dressed up a couple of Beavers. A fun night was had by all.

Members of the Go society, which teaches this ancient game of strategy, made another visit. I was most impressed with the Beavers as it did demand high levels of concentration. At one point I commented that you could hear a pin drop as the Beavers took on one another in individual games. They thoroughly enjoyed the experience and were a credit to Hayling Scouts.

This Christmas was my first in taking part in the Christingle Service held in Havant. The Beavers had to make a Christingle from an orange and decorate it with sweets, ribbon and dried fruits. They then attended a Church service and this went towards their faith badge. During the year the Beavers also attended the St George's Day Service with all others involved in Scouting in Havant and the Harvest Festival at St Andrew's church on Hayling.



Another evening was spent with Roger Knight showing slides from his fathers Antarctica expedition and bringing in some of the special clothing he had to wear. The evening was finished off playing games on the theme of ice.

This year was finished off with our Group 75th birthday camp which was a resounding triumph. Redwood Beavers joined in the weekend, complete with parents and family and all have voiced their appreciation of how great it was. I would personally like to say THANK YOU to all my parents who helped. We couldn't have done with without you.

I am very lucky now to have two uniformed helpers, Anita Westbrook and Roger Knight. They have been with me for a term and I realty do appreciate their help and commitment. We are already planning for the next year and all of us are very enthusiastic and work really well together.

I do have to say another big thank you to my parents who have again helped throughout the year and been fantastic and understanding. Two people I must thank are Jorden Reed and John Perrin, who helped tirelessly most weeks. Thank you all and I look forward to another brilliant year as leader of Redwood Colony.

Linda Hunter (Badger)

Jupiter Pack Report

Well I suppose that this year we have mostly been lighting fires. Fires



for cooking on, fires for singing and sitting around, fires at the hut, fires away from the hut (but thankfully none in the hut!) and fires just for watching. Skills have developed, our haute cuisine is exceptional and we



can do wonderful things with nettles, blackberries, rabbits and snails amongst other things.

One of the most memorable evenings was a night hike along the Billy Track on November 5. It was a clear frosty moonlit night. We (naturally) lit a fire on the shore and cooked sausages whilst watching the fire work displays that were taking place all around the harbour, from Southsea to Farlington. Eventually our fire floated away upon the incoming tide...perfect.



We have had hikes to Kingly Vale, and spent a day at Queen Elizabeth Country Park walking and building shelters, followed by a sleep over at the hut and yes there was sleep. The moral of course is, never have Cubs for a sleep over without taking them to the point of exhaustion first!

The Pack has worked hard on achieving badges and challenges, and we ensure that every boy has the opportunity to achieve his Chief Scout's Silver Award before moving up to Scouts. In the last year Joe Diment and Oliver Heath have achieved theirs, so well done to them.

Once again we had a go at a range of activities and challenges and have joined in with Group events such as St George's day parade, the Xmas Post and one of our Leaders (Andrea) led her team to victory in the 2003 Quiz.

The highlight of our year was of course the Birthday camp where we had a good turnout of boys and their Parents. My thanks to everyone who helped us with the camp and also the "bag packing" at Sainsbury's in March that allowed us to bring in so many exciting activities, although as you can probably guess, firelighting and cooking remained one of Jupiter packs favourites.

Sadly we have said goodbye to Dave Beech who was one of our warranted leaders, but has moved away from the Island. He is sorely missed but I just know that there are people waiting for an invitation to become involved in the fun, and well this is it. We are looking forward to hearing from you.

Aaron Pycroft Andrea Heath

Saturn Pack Report

We have had a full and busy year doing basic cub scouting as well as trying new things. We took part in the St George's day service, the group fun day and the District Six a side football.



We went on cycle rides, dark beach walks, visits to the fire station and the taro swimming pool. We have eaten many varied foods that we have cooked as well as that provided by parents for parties. We showed the Reverend Ann how we made pancakes whist she told us about Shrove Tuesday.

We joined up with Aspen colony to find out about Romania and then we all preformed a variety of our talents to raise funds. Jo took the money with her to Romania and treated the children from the orphanage to a meal out as well as buying some craft equipment.

We had another wakeful night at a sleep over, which is always great fun and guarantees the leaders an early night the day after!

We joined in the group bag pack with some cubs turning up for both the Sunday and Monday stints. It was a pretty tough person who avoided putting something in some of the buckets given the charm that the cubs worked on them!!!!!



Six cubs gained the top award and were presented with the certificates at the Mayors parlour in Havant. This is always a special night for the 10% of cubs, throughout the country, who mange to complete the challenges. Well done to Tom Austin, Jeremy Cairns-Todd, Alex Tickner, Tom Hill, Jake Whistlecraft and Max Williams.

We have undertaken a number of challenges and badges and gained 18 creative, 14 caring, 20 fitness 12 outdoor and 24 international challenges and 124 proficiency badges.



Saturn Pack continues to have a regular turn out of 24 cubs and so we were delighted to have two scouts from Eagle troop to come along and help us for two terms. Matt Keiller and Jamie Bray showed us some games that the big boys play as well as taking an active part in leading some scouting skills. (they are still learning about lighting fires with wet wood!!!!). Thanks to both of

you for all your help.

Paul Jackson, Fiona Jordan- Harrison and Jo Hawke have been the backbone of the leader team and worked so hard to enable the cubs to try such a variety of activities. I thank you all so much for all that you have done and hopefully will continue to do.

Thanks must also go to the executive committee who work hard to keep all other aspects of the group going. The pack is lucky to have such supportive parents who encourage their sons to have a go and offer help when we need it. Thank you all.

And last to my family who let me out each Monday for my one and a half hours of relaxation!

Thank you all Mandy x

Eagles Troop Report



The 2002/3 Scout year ended as always, with the highlight for Eagle Troop; our Summer Camp. The venue for this was the Scout site at Caddihoe, near Exeter in Devon. We managed to combine some traditional scout activities (pioneering, bivouac building, firelighting, open cooking and the Patrol competition) with some adventurous activities. The latter consisted of quad biking, caving, rock climbing, abseiling and canoeing. For once the weather was kind to us - it made a change to curtail activities due to the heat!

The new term commenced, once again, with the challenge of rearranging the Patrols and promoting new Patrol Leaders, as a number of boys moved on to the Explorer section. Winter activities included pioneering, building an assault course, hot air balloons, tenpin bowling together with some trips to the beach although several of these had to be cancelled due to the weather.

In October we had our second foray into Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) - this time our radio station was located in the hut. On the whole this was successful with over 40 boys attending and associated Parents. The highlight was to talk to the World Scouting Bureau station in Germany.

In January some of the older boys, together with the Explorer section, attended the winter camp at Gilwell Park. This turned out to be an excellent weekend and once again the weather was surprisingly mild for the time of year (we didn't even need to use the advertised hot water bottle filling service)! I think the site of Dodgem cars and a Ferris Wheel at Gilwell surprised some of the boys.

In April the Troop participated in the District football competition and were unlucky to be beaten to first place by a penalty shoot-out. David Beckham - we know how you feel!



The Troop participated in the bag-packing at Sainsburys to raise funds for the Group 75th celebration camp which over half the Troop attended and enjoyed, despite the wind!

And so it came to pass that it was time for another Summer Camp, this time in Dorset. We joined the Dorset Scouts at their Goose 2004 event. This featured a number of activities including catamaran sailing, powerboating, climbing and abseiling, mountain biking, hill-walking, quad biking and wind surfing. This was also the time for me to say goodbye to Eagle Troop after 11 years as a Leader, the last 3 as Section Leader. I have enjoyed my time as Leader and hope to be able to be of service to the Group in general, albeit in a less formal capacity and one which will leave more time for Audrey and me to enjoy our other interests. I would just like to add my thanks to my assistants; my wife Audrey, Pete Goddard, Dave Eacott and Karl who joined us from Explorers to help out for part of the year

So in closing I will say this is not goodbye but au revoir. It's goodnight from me and its goodnight from her!

Ed Comment: Audrey & Pete on behalf of the many young people of Hayling you have helped over the years and your brilliant support to the group

Thanks!

You will be missed but we are very pleased you will continue to help the group in a number of ways.

Lion Troop Report

Once again another year has passed and this year has seen Lion Troop enjoying a mix of scouting and fun activities both in the hut and outdoors.

The summer term began with some camping skills training, an evening visit to the fire station, a troop evening dedicated to the cycling proficiency badge, badge work and finally the great Lion Troop tradition of the end of term Beach BBQ and mass water fight. Once again Jim gets wet! But how did James stay dry?

For the summer camp 2004, Lion's went to Caddihoe Scout Camp Site near Exeter (the week after Eagles, so they had pitched our tents for us). There were lots of various activities including a day climbing, abseiling and caving at The Rock Centre in Chudleigh and a day in Canadian canoes on the canal at Exeter. All the scouts that attended the camp were awarded with the Adventure Challenge Badge.

During the winter term the scouts had an international cooking evening, a disability evening, scavenger hunt and the Legendary Rhodie camp run by Wilf and Joy.

As a special treat from me, in September I organised a St Andrews Night for the scouts. This included a Piper, Scottish Country Dancing (the Gay Gordon's and the Dashing White Sargent) and a selection of Scottish food including Haggis, Neaps and Tatties. All scouts came dressed as Scotsmen.



The start to 2004 brought camping skills training in the hut, Archery with Jacko, fun with wide games at the beach, pioneering, 10 Pin Bowling and Laser Quest in Southampton and a weekend camp. This was planned, organised and run by Jake Wilkinson-Tough, Daniel Hammond and Jordan Reed as part of their Gold Chief Scouts Award. (This camp seems to have give birth to a new Lion Troop camp tradition "We came, We camped, We cleaned your campfire circle!")

This year has seen a total of six investitures, three scouts moving up to the explorer section and various proficiency badges and Challenge Award being presented.



This last year saw three Lion Troop Scouts gain the Gold Chief Scouts Award. This is the highest award in the scout section and was gained through hard work and dedication. Our congratulations go to Jake, Dan and Jordan for gaining award.

I would like to thank the PL's for all their hard work and help they have given throughout the year. My thanks also goes to the Leadership team of James Perfett, Merv Haines, Claire Ashley, Alex Farrow and Edward Harrison, without their hard work and dedication Lion Troop would not run as smoothly (they also help by keeping me sane!). A special thanks goes to Claire Havlin for all her help on the Caddihoe Camp.

What next? Lots more of the same including camps, lots more outdoor activities and lots of badge work. We are all looking forward to seeing Lion Troop go from strength to strength in the next year. We could always use a little or a lot of help as well as more leaders so why not come along and see just how much fun it can be.

Jim Simpson

Scout Leader

Nexus Unit Report

Hayling's Nexus Explorer Unit is 3 years old! Scouting's big problem was that most older scouts were leaving before they got to the Venture age of 15 1/2. Even if they made it to Ventures, they were mixing with people old enough to drink legally, drive, have jobs and have lots of money - not easy. So Explorers was officially launched in 2002 to fill the gap for 14 to 18 year olds. But being Hayling, we couldn't wait - in October 2001, we had 10 scouts about to go up to Ventures - a perfect opportunity to kick-start Explorers. So we did.

We expected 10 boys along. We got 23, including GIRLS! And we've oscillated between 25 and 30 over the 3 years. We're very flexible - <u>they're young adults</u>, and that's the way we treat them. If they don't turn up one week, that's fine - we know they've all got school work or jobs, they've all got other commitments to meet as well as Explorers.



They don't like uniforms, so we don't always insist on them, although we do have a unit rugby shirt with their own logo they wear. They love messing around and having a laugh. On the other hand - **they're young adults**, so we expect a lot of them - to organise themselves - to stick within reasonable bounds of

behaviour - to be honest and fair with us and each other - if they commit to something, to do it. And they do. You would be proud of every one of them.

And of course we have a huge amount of fun. Everyone gets to suggest ideas, and then we have a committee of 5 or 6 explorers to squeeze them all into a (semi) planned programme. So what did they choose to do last year? Go karting (twice), swimming, water-fights, mountain biking, barbecues (including one on the beach at Christmas), bowling, sweet making, training for summer camps and checking out sites, Valentines meal, cooking, archery, radio controlled model car evening, a murder mystery dinner evening in full evening dress, designing Nexus rugby shirts, video evenings (watching and making), canoeing (several now British Canoe Union qualified), funfair evenings and ice skating.

It's not all play. We've done lots of fund-raising for Kandesteg, helping other scout units and providing man-power, and helping to organise and run the Group Birthday Camp. And explorers were in the Musical Society's production of Sweet Charity,

and helped run the Hayling School's Rock Concert. Two groups have passed the Bronze level expedition, the hardest part of the Duke of Edinburgh Award, which is the backbone of the new Award Scheme.

But of course the highlight has to be the camps - millions of them. We've had another 2 Rhodi camps, clearing rhodedendron from the legendary Broadstone Warren campsite in Ashdown Forest, where we made Ed's Premium Charcoal to 'Forge the Ring that Binds Them All'. A great winter camp at Gilwell in London, the centre of worldwide scouting, with a full fairground - Dodgems, Ferris Wheel, Waltzer, Simulator, Quasar, climbing and abseiling and a revolving wall, shooting and archery, crafts, Gilwell's very own radio station, films and disco. Plus Oxfam Camp and the Hampshire Trek Cart camp, where we won the competition.

And another great summer camp this year, where in the great tradition of scouting, we cycled to camp in the Isle of Wight, using 3 Ferries - Hayling, Fishbourne/IOW and Cowes/Medina. A brilliant and under-used scout campsite on the sheltered banks of Newtown Creek, with fantastic opportunities for canoeing, rafting, swimming, mud-fights, firelighting and barbecueing. We had a day out at Ryde, with ice-skating and trip to the Island speedway, courtesy of Pam Johnson, and the 1 day bus pass challenge to visit every bus stop on the island (they didn't make it).

And the highlight of highlights was of course the 2003 summer expedition to Kandesteg in the Swiss Alps, with 300 Hampshire Explorers and Network scouts and 1200 other scouts from all over the world. Kandesteg was the very first international scout camp site, nestling in a beautiful valley below a freezing cold lake (yes, we did go swimming), glaciers and mountains. We were there for 2 weeks, so we had much more time than a normal summer camp. We had hikes over the mountains, including a 2 day hike over the Lotchenpasse, climbing all day and crossing the glacier, sleeping in a mountain hut at over 2600metres, before

descending to a completely different valley, with a Swiss train journey to get back. We still managed to squeeze in white water rafting, hydro-speeding down mountain torrents, rock and ice climbing, abseiling, and a dawn hike in the mountains, as well as more leisurely pursuits such as stone carving, leather and nature workshops and an environmental project to build giant compost bins. We were there for the



unforgettable Swiss National Day, partying from dawn to midnight - can you imagine 30 explorers getting up at 8am for aerobics, dancing and mass breakfast with 1200 other scouts? And it was really international - they discovered lots of Finnish girl scouts, and invited 50 Italian scouts for a pasta (!) and curry dinner. Unforgettable. Very many thanks to everyone that helped with the enormous effort to raise the £7,000 cost.



The final escape !!??

Wilf and Joy Forrow

Joy and I have been running Hayling Cubs, Scouts or Explorers every week for the last 15 years, and it's time for us to take a break and let someone else pick up the baton. We'll still be helping in the background. Dominic taught me everything I know about scout leading, and he'll be brilliant at taking Explorers to the next level. We've worked with some amazing adults, and some even more amazing young people, AND had enormous fun along the way, and we'd like to take this chance to thank all the people who have given us support and very kind messages of thanks.