



To all our Parents / Supporters / Friends –
1st St Albans Scout Group Newsletter
June 2021

Firstly we hope you and your families and friends have kept well as the whole world has battled with the Pandemic, with its enormous impact on us all.

It was back in March 2020, when our five scouting sections ceased meeting on a face to face basis, and our Wadley Hut was locked down. The 2020 camp was postponed until 2021, now 2022, (put it in your diaries – its 17th – 19th June 2022.) and all other face to face scouting was suspended. Largely thanks to the national vaccination programme, we are now slowly being freed to return to face to face scouting.

Our thanks go to our section leaders, who have worked hard to provide a virtual programme of meetings, and we are delighted that very imaginative activities have continued, much fun had with badges have been successfully completed and awarded.

Your Executive Committee have kept active, maintaining the hall, preparing it for reopening in a Corvid world. We have installed hand sanitizers, paper towel dispensers, upgraded the wi-fi, checked all the electrics etc, whilst maintaining a Corvid cleaning regime throughout. Our external users have recommenced their activities, and we welcome, Hartbeeps, Performing Hearts, Pixie Studio, Tennis Champs and Striva Drama to the Wadley Hut family.

In the wider scouting world, all District events including the St Albans Annual Gang Show at the Alban Arena have been cancelled, Hertfordshire Scouts closed all its 5 activity centres, and these are now slowly re-opening. These venues provided a large percentage of County scouting income, and thus the financial impact has been huge. The same applies to the Scout Association, whose finances have been severely dented.

Fortunately, the 1st St Albans Scout group remains on a sound financial basis, thanks to the years of fund raising / hiring out our hall / marquees etc. Our AGM was held on Zoom this again year, and it was nice that we were once again joined by Jenny Ford a former GSL now living in Kendal.

All our sections are in need of some additional parental help, as a number of previously leaders / helpers stood down during the break. **Could you help ?**, perhaps on an occasional basis, you would be welcomed with open arms, well elbow bumps ! Please speak to your section leader a.s.a.p., it's fun, and a hugely fulfilling volunteering role. Thanks

We decided not to ask for any subs, during this period, apart from a £20.00 payment last December, to secure a young persons membership, and we were delighted with the positive response to this appeal. These payments will be offset against subs, when we re-start fully. Hopefully this coming September. Its been brilliant over the last few weeks, as some face to face meetings have taken place, largely outside, and the smiling faces of our young people makes it all worthwhile.

We are all aware how much it means to them, and we intend to continue to proceed slowly and safely,

1st St Albans Scout Group

Group Chairman: Steve Lindsay MBE 24, Lindum Place, Verulam, St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL3 4JJ **Tel** 01727 761876 **Mobile** 07775 544344
email ordosteve@btinternet.com

Group Website <http://www.firststalbansscouts.org.uk>

Group Scout Leader: Mr T.R. Cavender 6 Hillside Road, Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire, LU7 8BU **Tel** 01525 377222 **Mobile** 07703 442084.

Treasurer: Bob Allam 10, St Stephens Close, St Albans, Herts AL3 4JJ **Tel** 01727 838454

Secretary: Sue Campbell 5, Claudine Place, St Albans, Herts AL3 4JE **Tel** 07837 403283

Patron HM The Queen **President** HRH The Duke of Kent **Founder** Robert Baden-Powell OM **Chief Scout** Bear Grylls

Registered Charity no. 302571