

1st St Albans Scout Group - 115th AGM – Thursday 29th June 2023.

Chair & Group Administrator – Steve Lindsay MBE – Annual Report

Welcome everybody to this years A.G.M. , as we seek to review the 12 months ending the 31st March 2023

As normal the last 12 months have been packed full of challenges, and enormous credit must go to all our Exec team and section leadership team, for another 12 months of hard work / devotion to Scouting at the 1st.

Their work has seen our young people enjoy a very stimulating year, leading up to this year's Group Camp at Tolmers Activity Centre, in Cuffley next weekend (7th – 9th July). We will hear more about their section programmes later.

At the time of the Annual Census, at the end of Jan 23, our numbers of young people had grown to 130 up from 117 the previous year. This increase in numbers is only possible as we have a strong section leadership team, which the group is extremely fortunate to have. We benefit from their long service / strong commitment, many who have been working at the 1st for many years, supported by a number of new leaders / occasional helpers. Long may it continue !

Shortly Paul & Gabriella Cordell, who have been chosen to represent St Albans / Hertfordshire will be off to the World Scout Jamboree in Korea, we wish them well. Parents are always welcomed and indeed encouraged to get involved , and one feature our annual group camp, will be the amazing support of a good number of parents.

Your group executive are changing their title shortly to become The Trustee Board, , which will more clearly define their role. As always they remain focussed on maintaining strong finances, ensuring the building / facilities are well maintained / and a safe environment for our young people. Last Summers refurbishment works, included the re-sanding / varnishing of the hall floor and its complete redecoration. We have always seen the Wadley Hut as a community asset, and the wide range of external users is testament to that, including being used as Polling Station, a training hub for the NHS, home to Ramadam Prayers, a base for a number of small businesses, and latterly home to Chiswell Green Rainbows.

I should also mention our cleaner who continues to show great flexibility / professionalism / being willing to work round all our external users –our sincere thanks to Claudine Minns.

Bob Allam will once again provide us with all the financial details, his sound management continues to ensure the group is perhaps the financially, the strongest in the county.

Finally I want to thank my amazing core Exec Team, without whom the 1st would be so much the poorer :-

Sue Campbell – Secretary – (24 years)

Bob Allam – Ex leader / treasurer – (37 years)

**Steve Norris – Ex leader / safety manager (26 years) & John Wallace (39 years)
Ex leader / maintenance.**

Finally we all now know, if we didn't before, just how important Scouting is to the well being of our Young People. Long may the 1st be here to meet that need, and lets have lots of fun on the way!

Thanks

Steve Lindsay