





our Trustee

**Board** 

Chairperson

Treasurer

Secretary

Trustee

DIY/jobs around the building **Fundraising** 

**Team** 

Knowledge in grant applications

## **Support Team**

Mow the lawn

Quartermaster

Looking for a new, exciting opportunity? We have a range of volunteer roles available at 59th Newchapel Scouts. Scouting does not have to be a weekly commitment, we'll take what you can offer. Browse the roles available and if you find something you're interested in....

Join a Section Team



Squirrels (4-5)

Beavers (6-8)



CUDS Cubs (8-10.5)

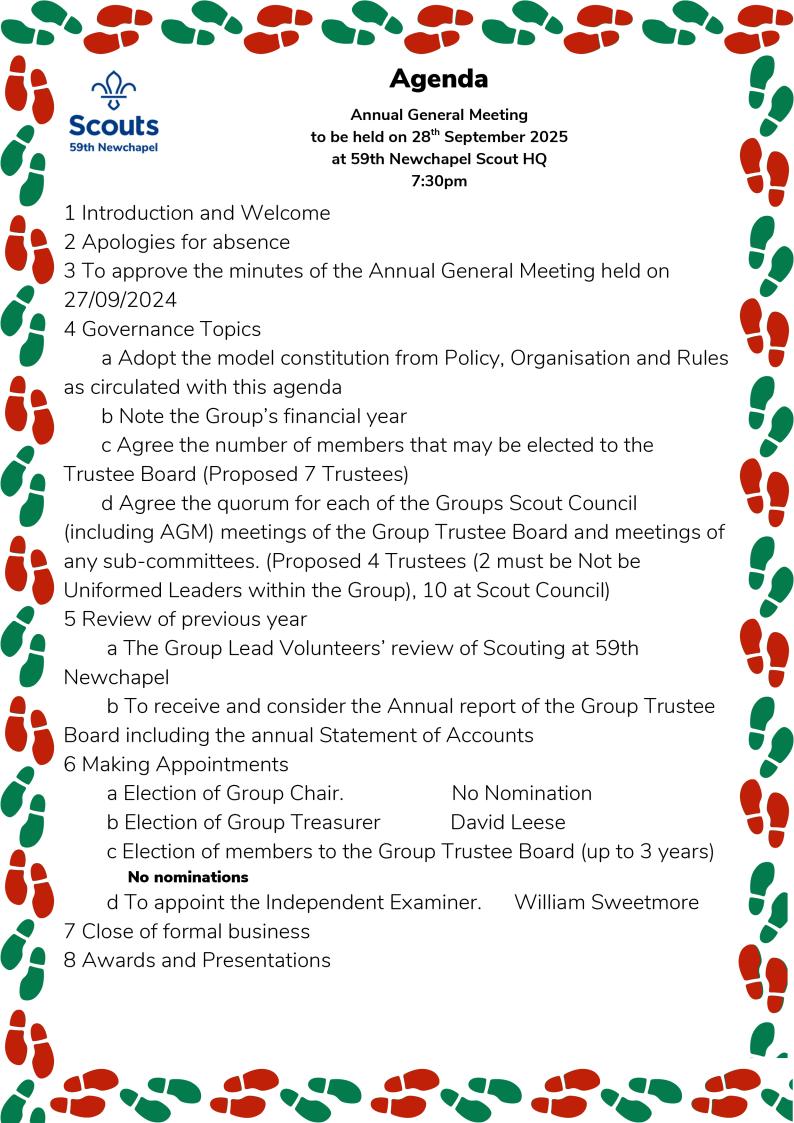
**Scouts (10.5-14) SCOUTS** 

**EXPLORERS** Explorers (14-17)



**CONTACT** GSL@NEWCHAPELSCOUTS.CO.UK







Date: 27 September 2024

Venue: Rainford Close, Packmoor

1. Attendees

James Cuadra (GLV/Treasurer), Michele Lawrence (Chair), Rachel Hawthorne, Phil Ridley, Suzanne Meakin, Peter Meakin, Corey Ander, Marianne Conway, Sean Conway, Leigh-Anne Eplett, Dylan Hawthorne, Emily Windsor, Lindsay Johnson, Julie Burke, Matt Burke, Laura Clowes, Alan Morris, Cathy Hancock, Steven Garratt, Louise Fox, Susanne Calladine, Anthony Moran, Mary Moran, William Timbey, Chris Timbey, Stephen Timbey, Isaac Timbey, Shay Norman, Phil Hassall, Niamh Boote, Samantha Boote, Imogen Boote, Simon Boote, Barry Jones 2. Apologies

Matt Clutton, Claire Hare, Rich Williams, Barry Walker, Natasha Austin, David Leese

3. Governance Topics

Chair: We'll use this part of the meeting to make sure the charity's foundations are in good order

3. a. Review the Minutes

Chair:

The Group Trustee Board have reviewed the minutes of the previous AGM at their meeting held on 6th February 2024. Michele proposes the acceptance of these minutes. Suzanne Meakin seconds, approved.

3. b. Adopt the model constitution from Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR) Chair:

In line with the recommendation from Scout Headquarters, the Group Trustee Board proposes we adopt the model constitution from Chapter 5 of Policy, Organisation and Rules. A copy of this was available for review and inspection prior to this meeting, and copies are also available at this meeting.

Seconder please, Georgia Timbey seconds. Please show your hands to approve, approved.

3. c. Note the Group's financial year

Chair:

Can the Group Scout Council members please note our charity's financial year is [1 April to 31 March].

3. d. Agree the number of members that may be appointed to the Trustee Board Chair:

Following good practice recommendations from the Charity Governance Code, POR states Trustee Boards should have a minimum of 5, and no more than 12, Trustees in total. This includes ex officio and co-opted Trustees.

The Group Scout Council must agree the number of people to be appointed to the Trustee Board. The outgoing Trustee Board recommends that 7 people are appointed. I propose the Group Scout Council approves that recommendation.

Seconder please, Samantha Boote seconds. Please show your hands to approve, approved.

3. e. Agree the quorum for future meetings of the Group Scout Council (excluding this AGM) Chair: The Group Scout Council must agree its quorum – the minimum number of Group Scout Council members that must be present at Group Scout Council meetings. The outgoing Trustee Board recommends the quorum should be set at 10 people. Does the Group Scout Council approve that recommendation? Seconder please, Niamh Boote seconds. Please show your hands to approve, approved. 3. f. Agree the quorum for future meetings of the Trustee Board The Group Scout Council must agree the quorum for the Trustee Board – the minimum number of Trustees members that must be present at Trustee Board meetings. The outgoing Trustee Board recommends the quorum should be set at 4 people, two of whom should be Non-Uniform members. Does the Group Scout Council approve that recommendation? Seconder please, Cathy Hancock seconds. Please show your hands to approve, approved. 4. Review of the previous year Chair: We'll now use this part of the meeting to reflect on the activities of the past year. 4. a. The Group Lead Volunteer's review of Scouting in 59th Newchapel Chair asks the GLV to present their annual review. GLV provides review. [The review is available in the AGM booklet, circulated alongside these minutes.] Chair thanks the GLV for their review. 4. b. Receive and consider the Annual Report of the Group Trustee Board including the annual Statement of Accounts Chair notes the Group Trustee Board has approved the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts, and has received the report on the accounts from Daryl Denson ACMA, VAST, The Dudson Centre, Hope Street, Stoke on Trent, ST15DD. Chair asks the Group Treasurer to give their explanation of the Statement of Accounts. Treasurer explains the Statement of Accounts. [The Statement of Accounts is available in the AGM booklet, circulated alongside these Chair invites questions from the floor regarding the Trustee Annual Report, and the Annual Accounts. No questions. Chair thanks the Treasurer. 5. Making Appointments Chair: We'll use this part of the meeting to organise the set up of the charity until the next AGM. We'll appoint a Trustee Board to oversee good governance for the charity over the next year.

5. a. Appoint the Group Chair, following recommendations from the open selection process initiated by the Group Trustee Board Chair: Regretfully, there have been no nominations for this role therefore I will continue acting as chair until the end of this meeting. 5. b. Appoint the Group Treasurer, following recommendations from the open selection process initiated by the Group Trustee Board Chair explains the open selection process agreed by the Trustee Board. The recommendation to the Group Scout Council is that David Leese should be appointed as Group Treasurer. Please show your hands as approval, approved. 5. c. Appoint members of the Group Trustee Board, following recommendations from the open selection process initiated by the Group Trustee Board Chair explains the open selection process agreed by the Trustee Board. The recommendation to the Group Scout Council is that James Cuadra, Stephen Timbey, Shay Norman, Suzanne Meakin, Louise Fox and Cathy Hancock should be appointed as members of the Group Trustee Board. Please show your hands as approval, approved. Chair thanks the Trustees for their work during the year. 5. d. Appoint the Independent Examiner Chair: The treasurer (board in this case) proposes Daryl Denson ACMA, VAST, The Dudson Centre, Hope Street, Stoke on Trent, ST15DD. Chair confirms that Daryl Denson has been proposed, seconded and is qualified for the role, and asks for a show of hands to approve nomination, approved. 6. Closing remarks Chair closes the AGM and thanks everyone for attending.





Reporting Period: 6th April 2024 – 5th April 2025

The Trustee Board met regularly throughout the year to oversee the governance, financial health, and strategic direction of the Group. The meetings were well-attended and productive, with a strong focus on safety, financial planning, and future development.

Governance & Trustee Board

- The Trustee Board was set at max of 10 members, including the Chair, Treasurer, and GLV as ex officio roles.
- A rolling trustee programme was discussed to ensure continuity and engagement.

#### Finance

- Fundraising and donations increased compared to the previous year.
- Gift Aid income rose, though it remains variable.
- Badge spending increased due to changes in purchasing methods.
- Utility costs decreased thanks to refunds and energy efficiency measures.
- Barclays accounts were closed, and financial procedures are under review.
- Trustees agreed to present a subs breakdown graph at the AGM for transparency.
- A 3–5 year strategic plan was initiated, focusing on leadership gaps and result-driven goals.

#### Health & Safety

- A Scout Safe Premises Audit was completed, with follow-up actions planned.
- A fire risk assessment was conducted, and emergency lighting installation is pending due to wiring issues.
- Trustees reviewed and adjusted the Risk Register, focusing on building deterioration and leadership recruitment.
- Trustees agreed to install CCTV, following unsuccessful grant applications to help building security and insurance.
- A review of all insurance policies was conducted.

#### **GLV** Business & Group Activities

- The Group Camp and Packmoor Community Event were highly successful, raising over £450 and strengthening community ties.
- Bingo night and Santa run were well received.
- Building insurance was moved to Unity for better coverage.
- Grant applications for various projects are ongoing.
- The group now has access to OS Maps for DoE activities.

#### **Extension Project**

- Builders quotes were received, larger building firms did not respond.
- The Lottery grant application is on hold due to scheme updates.
- Trustees agreed to self-fund the foundations before planning permission expires in April 2026, with phased development to follow.

### Looking Ahead

- Continued focus on leadership recruitment and retention.
- Strategic planning to support sustainable growth.
- Ongoing efforts to improve premises safety and accessibility.
- Strengthening community engagement through events and partnerships.



## 59th Newchapel Annual Finance Report April 24-April 25

59th Newchapel Scout Group Charity Number: 1125807

Reporting Period: 6 April 2024 – 5 April 2025

#### Overview

The 2024–2025 financial year has been a successful and stable period for the Group, marked by growth in membership, increased fundraising, and significant improvements to our premises. Our financial position remains strong, with total funds increasing from £57,677 to £72,438.

Receipts

Total income for the year was £49,146, up from £43,216 in the previous year. Key sources of income included:

• Membership Fees: £19,139 ( † from £16,056)

• Fundraising: £5,405 ( † from £1,928)

Events Income: £12,404 (↓ slightly from £13,478)

• Gift Aid: £4,141

Grants Received: £1,985 (↑ from £1,250)

• Donations: £3,033

We also received restricted bank interest income of £1,371, contributing to the growth of our reserves.

Payments

Total expenditure was £34,385, up from £28,281 last year. Major costs included:

Events: £11,815Insurance: £3,487

• Utilities: £3,060

• HQ Membership Fees: £5,616

• Extension Costs: £2,840

• Venue Maintenance: £962

• Badges and Clothing: £1,223

The increase in spending reflects our investment in improving facilities and supporting a growing membership base.

**Net Position** 

Net Receipts: £14,761

Cash Funds at Year-End: £72,438

Unrestricted Funds: £20,865

• Restricted Funds: £51.573

This represents a healthy financial position, with unrestricted reserves exceeding the six-month operating cost requirement as per Scout POR policy.

Reserves and Accounts

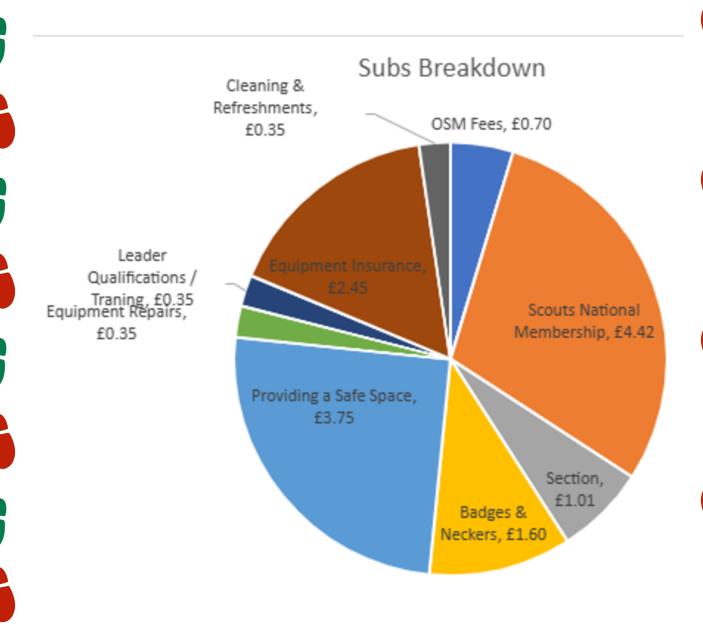
We continue to maintain a prudent reserves policy. The unrestricted funds of £20,865 are sufficient to cover operational needs. Restricted funds are allocated to specific projects, including the Extension Fund, which now holds £51,573 across various savings accounts. Grants and Fundraising We are grateful for the support received from: • Bentley (£500) Potteries North DI (£260) • Stoke City Council (£475) • William A. Cadbury Trust (£750) Fundraising efforts such as the Christmas raffle, community events, and election venue hire have significantly contributed to our income. **Events and Activities** The Group hosted a successful Group Camp and expanded its programme to include a Squirrel section. Event income and expenditure were well balanced, with a total of £12,404 received and £11,815 spent. Conclusion The Group remains in a strong financial position, with increased income, responsible spending, and growing reserves. We are well-placed to continue supporting our young people and investing in our facilities and programmes. Scouts 59th Newchapel

## **Trustees** Report

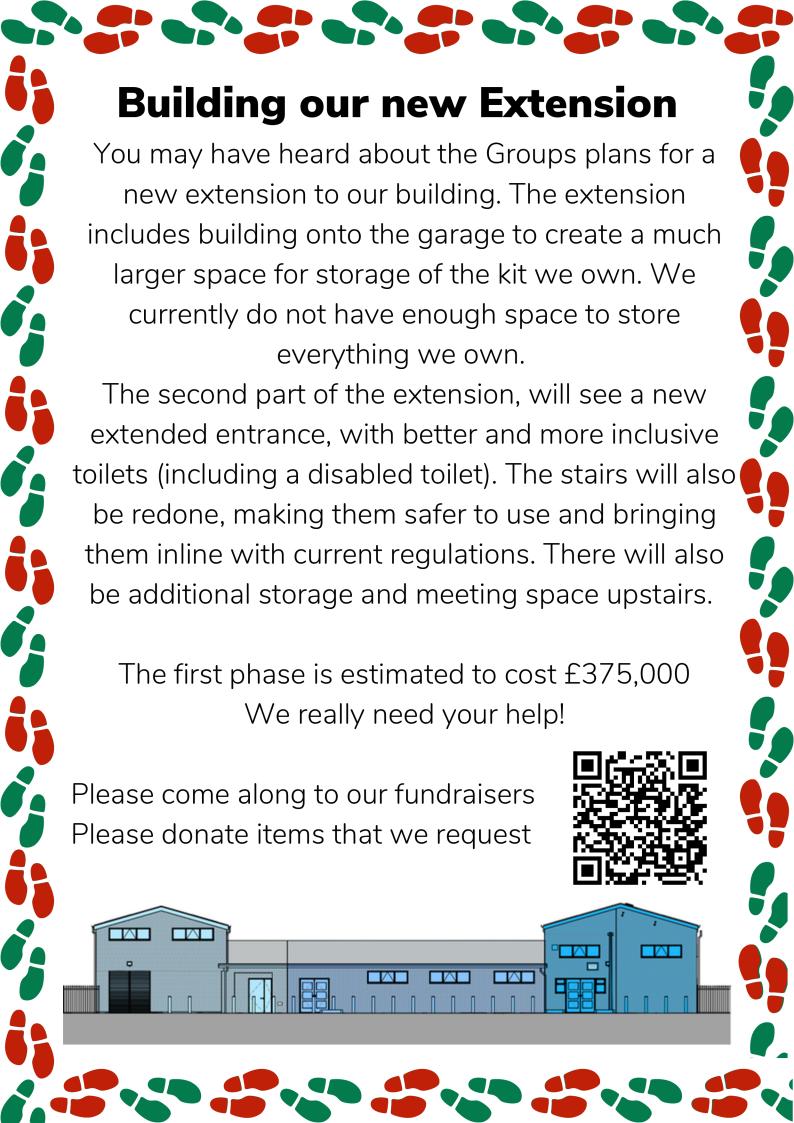


Subs Breakdown

The diagram below shows the breakdown of where your subscription payments go to each month.









## Group Lead Volunteers Report

The 2024-2025 year has been incredibly busy and progressive for 59th Newchapel Scout Group, and this document serves to highlight the key achievements and milestones from the past twelve months. It has been a year of building - not just with bricks and mortar, but also of skills, young talent, and community spirit.

Speaking of building, arguably the most significant development of the year has been the monumental progress made on our long-awaited headquarters extension. This project, funded through decades of diligent fundraising by past and present members, has finally moved from a dream to a reality. This year, we undertook the critical preparatory work: securing multiple quotes from building firms, appointing a contractor, and finalising all architectural and structural drawings. We are therefore thrilled to announce that as we hold this AGM, the foundation work for the first phase has already begun. Seeing the ground being broken is a truly exciting moment, and we owe a huge debt of gratitude to everyone whose efforts over the years have made this possible.

While the extension has been our flagship project, we have also continued to improve our existing facilities. The installation of a comprehensive CCTV system is a fantastic step forward for security, and the new Hive heating gives us much greater control over our energy consumption. Thanks to a generous donation, we also received new hand dryers for our bathrooms, and we are currently looking for a qualified electrician who might volunteer their time to help us with the installation. These improvements and projects are only possible through careful financial management. We are particularly pleased that the rewards of swapping energy providers last year have allowed us to absorb the £5 per-head increase in the national membership fee, meaning we could keep our monthly subscriptions frozen for all our young people.

Our ability to fund our work is also a testament to incredible fundraising support from our members and the community. This year's events, including the ever-popular bingo, quiz nights, and the annual Santa Run, were all resounding successes, with our raffle alone raising an incredible sum of over £2,000! We were also fortunate to receive a donation from a local councillor, be featured in the Tesco blue token scheme, and benefit financially by having our building used as a polling station.

Of course, the heart of our group is the adventure and skills for life we offer our young people. A major highlight this year was our biennial Group Camp, a triumph planned and executed primarily by our fantastic Explorer Scout unit and Georgia Timbey. It was a particularly special occasion as we welcomed our Squirrels to their very first 59th Group Camp! Across the sections, we have been as active as ever, taking part in the 'Outdoor in 24' challenge and the national Jambowlree bowling event.

This vibrant programme is only possible because our leaders are constantly developing their own skills, and we've seen plenty of new activity permits gained this year. Furthermore, we successfully secured £1,700 in grants to revamp our upstairs meeting room, upgrade lighting,



# Group Lead Volunteers Report

and purchase more watersports equipment.

This commitment to skills development provides the foundation for our young people to achieve incredible things. On that note, we must extend a huge congratulations to Georgia Timbey on achieving her King's Scout Award. This is the highest youth award in Scouting and the culmination of years of hard work and dedication; a truly outstanding achievement. Alongside these visible successes, we have also completed significant work behind the scenes, including navigating the challenging migration to the Scout's new digital management system. It was a bumpy road, but we made it through.

None of the progress outlined in this report would be possible without our team of volunteers. We want to extend our sincerest thanks to our Section Team Leads and Team Members, who volunteer their time week after week with boundless enthusiasm. Our thanks also go to the Group Trustee Board, who work tirelessly to manage the group's finances, facilities, and governance. And finally, thank you to the parents and guardians. Thank you for your continued support, for being a taxi service, for sewing on the badges, for supporting our fundraising, and for entrusting us with your children. They are a credit to you, and their energy is what makes all of this worthwhile.

As we look to the year ahead, we are filled with excitement for what is to come, especially watching the first phase of our new extension take shape.

Yours in Scouting, James Cuadra & Matt Clutton Joint Group Lead Volunteers



This year, we presented a total of 10 Acorn Chief Scout Awards, recognising the dedication and achievements of our members. These awards celebrate the commitment and hard work demonstrated by our youngest Scouts and serve to inspire others.

I would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all our leaders for their hard work and dedication throughout the year. Your commitment has been instrumental in providing an enjoyable experience for the children, and your efforts are truly appreciated.

As we look to the year ahead, we will be saying goodbye to Emily Windsor, who is moving to Wales for a new job. Emily has been a significant part of our group, and her presence will surely be missed. We wish her all the best in her new adventure and thank her for her contribution to the Squirrels.

Lastly, I would like to take a moment to express my gratitude to all of our children for their enthusiasm and energy over the past year. You truly make it enjoyable for our leaders and volunteers. Thank you also to the parents for your continued support and involvement, as well as to all our volunteers who work hard behind the scenes. We look forward to another fulfilling year of adventure and growth in scouting.

Sam Boote Squirrel Team Lead

## BEAVERS

Our 2024–25 year began with Group Camp at Consall, which was very well attended by our Beaver Section. Everyone had a fantastic weekend, and special thanks go to Georgia and the Explorer Team for organising such a brilliant camp.

Alongside Group Camp, the Beavers also enjoyed the Group Bowling Trip at Tenpin, where they took part in the Jambowlree Competition.

This year we ran a "MasterChef"-inspired challenge, where Beavers worked in small groups to follow recipe cards. They collected their ingredients and equipment before preparing their dishes. Each group faced a different recipe, and every one of them turned out brilliantly.

Our Summer Camp 2024 took us to The Oaks Scout Campsite in Loughborough, with a day trip to Conkers. It was a huge success, enjoyed by all. A big thank you to James for planning this camp, and congratulations to him on gaining his Campsite Nights Away Permit.

Another highlight of the year was a fishing day organised by Kerry and Alfie — a request that always comes up during our Log Chews. The Beavers had a fantastic time and were very successful with their catches. Congratulations also go to Kerry, who achieved her Rifle Shooting Permit this year.

In August, our Scout and Explorer teams once again ran our annual canoeing session, which is always a favourite activity for the Beavers. We are grateful for their support in giving our young people the opportunity to try new experiences.

This year we said a fond farewell to Laura, who stepped down from Beavers after an incredible 10 years of service to the Beaver Section and, more recently, to Squirrels. Laura, your dedication and energy will be greatly missed, and we thank you for everything you've done.

Christmas arrived all too quickly, and we celebrated once again with our Christmas Sleepover. A huge thank you to Lizzie, who planned her first sleepover for the festive season. Highlights included a special visitor, a Christmas lights hunt, and a party with a delicious buffet.

We are proud to share that 13 Beavers achieved their Bronze Chief Scout Award this year — a huge accomplishment and a credit to their hard work and enthusiasm. Congratulations to all our award recipients. Alongside our Young People's achievements, we'd also like to congratulate James and Niamh who attended Windsor Castle following being awarded the King's Scout Award.

Our year concluded with a Lion King-themed Sleepover in February, attended by both Squirrels and Beavers. Young people enjoyed a range of themed activities, from baking and dancing to orienteering and crafts.

None of this would be possible without our dedicated team of volunteers. We are so proud of every member of the team, who go above and beyond to deliver life-changing experiences for our Beavers. Thank you, Sam, Kerry, Alfie, James, Jacob, and Lizzie — you are all incredible.

We look forward to seeing what 2025–26 brings, and to many more years of adventure ahead.







Imogen Boote and Niamh Boote Beaver Team Leads



## cubs

First of all a big thank you to our energetic skilled and caring leaders we have had a topsy turvy year losing 2 leaders and gaining other support. They work so hard for the children.

Our numbers are at a record high and our achievements match it. We had a marvelous 10 Cubs gain their silver award. Achieving this is no simple task.

Children come to us not always confident but with patience and perseverance they try the activities we put on. In the last 12 months we have

- Camped
- Canoed
- Attended climbing activity days at Kibblestone
- Attended St George's day parade
- Attended Remembrance parade
- Gone on Night hikes
- Put on Craft days
- Attended the District swimming gala
- Visited pets at home
- Been visited by the reptile man
- Learnt some makaton
- Understanding mental health

We are very proud of these children. Here's to the next year!

Suzanne Meakin Cub Section Team Lead







## EXPLORERS

The Explorers have had an incredibly active year, with skills, training, expeditions, team-building and personal development. The twelve months have been filled with a variety of activities.

April 2024 - A fantastic start with our Bronze expedition. The Explorers navigated well, demonstrated strong teamwork, and completed their journey with confidence. Their presentation was of high quality and we can't wait to see what you do next.

May 2024 - the highlight here was seeing so many Explorers attending summer camp, at Botany Bay Scout Campsite, where they got involved in walking, climbing, archery, kayaking and pioneering.

June 2024 - the Explorers focused their International (ICV) activity on the olympics, through organising and planning themed activities and games for both the Explorer and Scout section. They were able to explore global cultures, fair play and friendship.

June 2024 & October 2024 - the Silver expedition team completed their practice and qualifying expeditions this year, which they completed with great determination. They battled against the hot weather in their practice, and cold and rain for their qualifying, but not without a smile on their faces.

September 2024 - a busy month for the team. The Explorers took part in survival skills nights, and one of the Explorers took on a 2 night survival camp, skinning, preparing and cooking a variety of animals. The Explorers also took part in a district shooting and archery camp where they took part in archery disciplines, shooting disciplines, clout and more, and were expected to win - unfortunately we will never know as the competition was cancelled due to a thunderstorm on Saturday afternoon!

September was also the launch of mental health awareness nights programmes where Emma from Mind came in to talk about the 5 ways of wellbeing and stress management. The Explorers then applied what they had learnt into ICV nights for their own section as part of their Top Awards.

November 2024 - we were excited to welcome Ashley by zoom, to deliver a fantastic talk during UK Parliament Week The Explorers learned about democracy, representation, and how voting works. The Explorers then formed their own political parties, and presented their ideas to the group. Voting took place and the Mario party won with one of their key policies including gold coins for all and a moat around the Scout HQ. February 2025 - We are grateful to Stu for delivering a comprehensive first aid programme tailored to real-life scenarios. The Explorers practiced CPR, bandaging, recovery position and more, with many earning their staged first aid badges.

March 2025 - we ran a camp with Goldenhill Explorers at Milldale Scout Campsite where our leaders ran archery, shooting and climbing for the group.

It has been a privilege to lead such a brilliant group of Young People. The commitment from the Explorers, support from parents and help from all of the Explorer leaders makes this possible! Thank you to everyone. We look forward to another year, filled with activities which aim to challenge our Explorers and enable them to achieve - be it top awards or a goal they set themselves.

- Explorer Team Leaders



## **Celebrating Adults**

This year we wanted to take some time to celebrate adult achievements as we are very proud of all of our volunteers who continue to give up time for Young People within our group at Newchapel



April 2024 Niamh and James attended Windsor Castle to celebrate achieving their King's Scout Award

May 2024

Dylan, Tom, George and Georgia went on a kayaking & canoeing permit course at Astbury to gain their permits which allow the group to continue to run kayaking and canoeing



August 2024

James achieved his campsite permit, allowing the continued provision of outdoor activities for young people



October 2024

Emily, Kerry and Georgia went on a shooting permit course to increase the coverage of shooting permit holders we have to run activities for young people



November 2024

James, Alfie, Tom, George, Emily, Dylan and Georgia represented the group at Great Gable for the Remembrance service.



March 2025

Georgia was presented with her King Scout Award.



### Join us!

We are always looking for more support in any way! If you think you can help, please speak to one of the leaders or email gsl@newchapelscouts.co.uk





## **Our Activities**

- Camping
- Rock Climbing
- Canoeing / Kayaking
- Archery
- Rifle Shooting
- Fire-lighting
- Football, rounders etc
- Duke of Edinburgh's Award

## **Our Sections**

- Squirrels (ages 4-6)
  - o Weds 17:15-18:15
- Beavers (ages 6-8)
  - Weds 18:30-20:00
- Cubs (ages 8-10.5)
  - o Fri 18:30-20:00
- Scouts (ages 10.5-14)
  - o Fri 20:00-22:00
- Explorers (ages 14-17)
  - Mon 19:30-21:30















Our hall is available to hire for:

- Children's Birthday Parties
- Afternoon Tea's
- Community Group Meetings
- One off hire
- Regular hire



**Contact:** 

GSL@newchapelscouts.co.uk



