

Scouts Annual General Meeting Report

Comprehensive Overview of Scouting Year Jun 2024 to Jun 2025
Financial Statement and Group Summaries

Agenda for the 2025 Annual General Meeting

- **Introduction and welcome Chair**
- **Apologies for absence Secretary**
- **Governance topics**
- **Review of the previous year**
- **Making appointments**
- **Recognitions and closing remarks**

Chair's Reflections & Forward Look

This year has been a remarkable testament to the energy, creativity, and resilience of our Scouting family across all eight sections. From the curiosity of our Beavers and the adventurous spirit of our Cubs, to the leadership growth in our Scouts and Explorers, each group has embraced challenges, celebrated achievements, and deepened their connection to community and Scouting values. Highlights ranged from badgework and outdoor adventures to civic engagement and unforgettable camps, all made possible by the dedication of our volunteers and young leaders and our families in Scouting.

As Chairman, I'm proud of the progress we've made and the joy we've shared — and I look ahead with optimism, as some of our trustees and volunteers step away from their roles. I feel with continued support as we've seen new volunteers stepping forward, we can continue to provide opportunities for every young person in our care.

Groups Lead Volunteers Report

We would like to start by thanking everyone involved in Warminster Scout Group (WSG). Without our dedicated team of volunteers Scouting just wouldn't happen.

We have had a strange year since Russ' departure at the AGM last year, but scouting within the sections has continued, as have the on-going repairs to our lovely Hut.

Nigel and Michelle have recently been appointed as co-GLV's to try and fill the shoes that Russ has left behind – not a small task!

We currently have 153 young people from 113 families across the 8 sections of the group, all enjoying the best that scouting has to offer. It is a testament to all the leaders, and the young people themselves, that we continue to have a large number of our Explorers as Young Leaders within the group.

Our challenges this year continue to be the maintenance of our lovely, but aging meeting place. Water leaks contributing to subsidence have increased the repair workload this year and will continue to impact into next Scouting year. Recruitment of adult volunteers may also become more of a challenge this year, with work commitments meaning some leaders will be able to spend less time supporting Scouting. If you would like to come and join us, in whatever capacity, please come and see one of us.

To paraphrase Kitchener "your Scout Group needs You"



Annual Summaries from Each Group

Thursday Beavers

Stef Hodgson & Maxine Severn

This past year has been a busy and fulfilling time for the Thursday Beaver Colony. Throughout our meetings, we engaged in a variety of activities designed to foster skills and friendship. Among these were exciting events such as fire lighting and our Halloween-themed games night, which provided great fun and camaraderie within our section. We also tackled challenges through team activities and had the opportunity to engage with our local community when we met our mayor. The Faith and Promise evening, along with the skills challenge evening and badgework sessions, allowed the Beavers to develop important aspects of Scouting through both fun and educational experiences.

Our group ventured into the wider community through several past events as well. The Remembrance Day Parade offered an opportunity for reflection and respect in honouring those who have served. The Christmas panto was a joyful gathering that brought everyone together with Rusty making friends with the Pantomime Dame, ooooo. The popular Space sleepover provided memorable nights for the children, filled with adventure and learning. The Ready Steady Cook event was a culinary delight, enabling everyone to showcase their cooking skills. Additionally, both the Parent and Beaver Camp and our summer splash pad picnic were lovely occasions for families to bond and celebrate our connections to each other and the great outdoors. As proud moments for our group, we also celebrated the presentation of three Chief Scout Awards, recognizing our members' dedication and achievements.

As we reflect on the great year, we must express our gratitude to all our leaders who have worked tirelessly to create a supportive and engaging environment for our Beavers. Their efforts are greatly appreciated, and they have played a vital role in providing enriching experiences throughout the year.

Our first 2 young leaders, Bubbles and Rainbow are turning 18! The time has flown and their enthusiasm and contributions to our group have made it a fun place to be for all. Their departure from the youth section of scouting marks the end of an important chapter, and we celebrate their achievements and the positive impact they have had on our Beaver community.

In conclusion, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the children for making this year enjoyable for our leaders. Your spirit and engagement have been truly inspiring. I'd also like to thank the parents for their continuous support and the volunteers who work diligently behind the scenes to ensure our group runs smoothly. We look forward to another year of Beavers, full of opportunities for growth and development within Scouting.

Wednesday Beavers

**Elizabeth Williams and Nigel Hodges and Louise Nash
Kala and Badger and Fawn Beaver Scout Leaders**

Summer 2025 has arrived and that brings about the Groups' AGM signalling the end of another scouting year.

This past year has been a very successful year with the children appearing to be enjoying themselves and by the time of this years' AGM we will be running just below full capacity. (25 beaver scouts) We are anticipating that another 3 Beavers will move up to Cubs at the end of July allowing 3 children to come in at the start of September returning us back to maximum numbers. Extensive work continues the waiting list.

We, the 3 Beaver Scout Leaders, are grateful to the helpers/parents who have given up their time to help at each meeting. Our thanks, once again, go out to them for their time, support and input.

Our Leadership Team has grown yet again this past year although Owl (Kathy) has taken a back seat and only attends when we are in difficulties with available leaders. Unfortunately, Squirrel (Jen) has been very unwell, and it goes without saying we wish her all the very best. This means that we still need support and assistance from parents on an Occasional Helper basis.

The new term saw us start with 24 Beavers registered and during the period between September and December we continued programs of learning and fun for the youngsters.

December We were able to arrange a visit to the West Somerset Railway to travel on the "Santa Express" at Cranmore. This always appears to be a very popular event for our youngsters.

Some of our activities this past year have included an insect hunt, tracking, a visit from the local food bank, money skills with savings, meeting tropical creatures, and making birdhouses just to name a few.

We have continued to carry out our weekly programs assisting and helping the children to gain as many badges as is possible. As a footnote we have awarded 9 Chief Scout Bronze awards this past year and are hopeful that the 2 beavers moving up to Cubs at the end of this term will also be presented with their Bronze awards. On the 16th July we held our final meeting of the term in the grounds of the hut.

The future of the Warminster Beavers looks very promising with such high numbers which indicates that there is a strong interest in scouting in the town.

Monday Cub Scouts

Emily Neate

This year has been a busy and exciting one for our Monday Cubs. We've packed in a huge variety of activities, from testing our skills to exploring the great outdoors.

Highlights have included backwoods cooking, energetic sports and athletics evenings, and plenty of fun with rounders, pioneer catapults, and even a game of human battleships. We celebrated the Lunar New Year, showed off our creativity with School of Rock-inspired performances, and enjoyed an excellent visit to Langford Lakes, where the brilliant team guided us through birdwatching and pond dipping.

Of course, badgework has continued to be a focus, with Cubs working hard toward new achievements across the year with a focus on Environmental conservation, pioneering, athletics and challenge badges. We ended on a high note with our Nature Ninja Camp, where I am pleased to report the Cubs successfully retrieved all their treasure as well as showed off their creativity and talent.

It has taken us a little while to feel truly back on our feet after the challenges of recent years, but I'm delighted to say that we are now hitting the ground running. The Cubs have shown great energy, enthusiasm, and teamwork, and we look forward to building on this momentum as we head into another exciting year.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you:

- To my amazing leader Jess (Rikki), whose dedication and enthusiasm make such a difference every week.
- To our fantastic young leaders, who bring energy, ideas, and support to everything we do.
- And to our supporting adults, including Stef from Beavers and Duncan from Thursday scouts who have given their time and effort to help our Cubs thrive.

We couldn't do it without such a brilliant team — thank you all!

Tuesday Tiger Cub

Joan Davies Ruth & Lottie

It's been a busy year for the Tiger cub pack and with many of our older cubs moving on scouts we have a younger cohort than normal, so we have focused on back to basics and developing our sixers and seconders.

The pack took part in county events such as the scrap heap challenge, chess, the swimming badge and the sixer and seconder event.

We enjoyed our Halloween party, made art from natural materials (a bit more of a challenge than we initially thought!) to complete the Naturalist badge.

One of the new skills we have all enjoyed is Para cord work making Christmas decorations for the Christmas tree festival and other things like woggles and bracelets which has led on to a focus on basic knotting led by Chil (Lottie)

Our summer camp plans were scupper by the storms with Tedbury no longer being a safe option, we set up on the scout hut grounds for a Friday camp including a full campfire with songs and Somors followed by a full day of activities and a hike concluding after the traditional spaghetti Bolognese supper. A big thanks goes to the parents who did their DBS and joined us for camp.

In the summer term we focused on outdoor activities with a visit to the Langford lakes, the railway station a hike and a sausage sizzle.

We are still working on the disability awareness badge and enjoyed the experience of playing blind cricket, the challenge of keeping quiet and listening for the "noisy" ball was harder for some than other, it was a real insight on what can be done as opposed to what can't be done.

The following cubs achieved their Silver Chief Scout award, George Winstanley, Samuel Morrison, Felix Jeffreys, Isaac Shepherd, Wilfred Martin, Lucia Ellis and Joseph Dowling.

A big thanks to all our parental support we can't do it without you.

Wednesday Scouts

Daniel, Adam & Alan

Scouting Year: July 2024 – August 2025

A very warm welcome from the Wednesday Scout Troop Leadership Team and our young people. What a fantastic year we've had together!

Sept / Oct 2024

We kicked off the new Scouting year by returning to the basics – sharpening skills, pioneering, and team-building activities to strengthen the troop's cohesion. Taking advantage of the lighter evenings, we also enjoyed a brilliant session with the Warminster Model Boat Club, testing our skills at the helm of their boats on the lake.

Nov / Dec 2024

As the darker nights set in, we moved indoors for a mix of creative evenings, alongside a fascinating visit from *Tropical Discovery* with their animal workshop. We ended the term with some festive fun – a joint Christmas quiz with the Thursday Troop.

Jan / Feb 2025

The new year began with team-building challenges that tested both knowledge and problem-solving skills. The much-loved *Chip Shop Survey* made a welcome return, and we closed the term by developing initial designs for a go-kart that would become a major project later in the year.

Mar / Apr 2025

Spring saw the troop heading outdoors again for an expedition weekend: one day of cycling, one day of hiking, and an overnight camp at the Scout Hut – a brilliant mix of adventure and resilience.

May / Jun 2025

With summer evenings in full swing, we returned to outdoor activities. Scouts enjoyed fires, wide games, and paddleboarding, while our go-kart project gathered pace with designs finalised, materials sourced, and welding underway.

Jul 2025

As the year drew to a close, final touches were made to the go-kart, with an exciting evening of testing where everyone got a chance to ride. We also visited St Denys Church to give Scouts the opportunity to explore a faith that may not be their own.

Summary of the Year

- **Leadership:** Two Young Leaders stepped up into full Leader roles.
- **Progression:** Two older Scouts moved up to Explorers, with one achieving their Gold Award. Another Scout also achieved Gold while still with us.
- **New Members:** Seven new starters joined the troop and have all settled in brilliantly.
- **Gratitude:** A huge thank you to the Leadership Team for their continued support, and especially to Ollie (Young Leader), without whom several evenings would not have been possible.

Looking Ahead

It has been a fantastic year of Scouting, full of learning, adventure, and growth. However, as we move into the new academic year, we are short on Leaders. With personal and work commitments pulling on time and energy, we are appealing to parents for support to ensure the troop can continue to thrive.

Thursday Scouts

Denise and Duncan

Warminster Thursday Scouts have had an amazing Scouting year from July 2024 to August 2025. Our youth-led programme is exciting, varied and challenging - carefully planned so there is 'something for everyone'.

This year, the Scouts have:

Practiced knotting to develop into challenging pioneering projects.

Practiced map-reading and radio operating and navigational skills then developed these further on a number of hikes.

Been close to nature - during a local 'bat walk' and joined in with conservation projects during a workshop at Langford lakes.

The Scouts practiced their rifles skills before taking part in the District Archery and Rifles Competition.

We engaged with Parliament during a visit from their Education Team to learn about how Parliament works and had an informative and interactive evening from one of our Scouts Corey and his dad who are passionate about military history before we attended the Warminster Remembrance parade.

The Scouts also got creative during pottery painting and a special talent show at the Hut We also enjoyed activities planned and led by our Patrol Leaders and Young Leaders - demonstrating their personal development.

Outdoor adventures:

As always the Scouts have enjoyed practicing firelighting and backwood skills before a day spent at Jubilee woods building gadgets, cooking a 2 course meal on altar fires planned by Patrols which was judged by Brian Fitchett and topped off with a campfire when Duncan introduced everyone to the 'Bruce the Moose song'!!

The whole Troop enjoyed canoeing with WOLT and all the Senior scouts were invited to take part in a weekend Expedition consisting of a day canoeing then demonstrating self-sufficiency cooking their planned meals before a challenging hike.

All the Troop were able to take part in a navigational day hike involving command tasks and developing radio operating skills and the Troop have also camped with Wednesday Troop and Explorers locally and in Derbyshire taking part in a variety of adventurous activities.

Conclusion:

Leadership - we have just sadly lost our 3rd Leader Mark and urgently need to recruit as we need more volunteers to continue offering our young people an amazing programme - please speak to Denise or Duncan if you'd be interested in volunteering.

Progression - Two Scouts have moved up to Explorers and 2 Chief Scout Golds have been awarded.

Numbers - We started the year with 18 Scouts and now have 26 with a growing number joining from outside scouting - demonstrating our success.

Thanks - We are hugely grateful to all our volunteers and YLs Fionnlagh and Lilia for continuing to support myself in Duncan - without you all we cannot Scout!

Tuesday Explorers

Explorers' Leadership Team

What a year - from early inception to a fully-fledged Unit with eleven listed members, two of whom have joined us from outside of Warminster Scout Group, and nearly all of whom have regularly attended, planned, and executed a myriad of activities, including:

Clay modelling, board games, drop hikes, online escape room, cooking (on a budget, on fires, on gas), photography, Halloween, wide games, Just Dance (twice!), Taskmaster, whistle carving, First Aid, Quiz, debating, creative writing / illustration and paracording, tall ships sailing, skiing, being Young Leaders to the other sections, Winter Expedition, to name but a few. We've also shared a summer camp with Thursday Scouts, including a 24hrs 'survival' period where the hammocks proved extremely popular, along with the Tomahawks session. We've now bought enough Angels (smaller metal 'axes') and Tomahawks to run 3 lanes on a range concurrently. This will enable all ages within Warminster Scout Group to book sessions, just as soon as we've secured funding for the stands (anyone got any spare timber?) and targets (seasoned softwood rings please).

In terms of key successes, it's important to highlight our first attendance at Strategy this year - a Gloucestershire scouts activity weekend, with a turbo-charged incident hike, entertainment, catering, etc. All we needed to do was turn up with your amazing Young People and some tents and the rest just kind of happened. Definitely one to repeat next year, either alongside the Scouts or just Explorers. There is a similar event for Cubs and Beavers (Evolution and Discovery) which may be applicable to other sections within the Group. We arrived on the Friday afternoon / evening and found a space on the camping field, set up tents and distributed a W3W link to find us as our team arrived in ones and twos (clearly if taking a larger group, there is potential to take a minibus and all the tents / bags etc in one go). Once we'd set up, it was time to get our (hotdog in a roll) supper. Day 2 was the Saturday and main event - an incident hike across some 3500 acres of prime Bathurst estate near Cirencester, with different points to be scored dependent upon complexity of the task / distance away from everything / everyone else. With some 2500 participants, the challenge is to pick an efficient route that will result in minimal (zero) queuing whilst others complete challenges before you can get on them. Across the tasks, the full range of scouting activities / skills was tested. More dinner, more entertainment (Explorers' age zone in the foam disco - decent modern music and a whole bunch of new friends to be made).

Sunday (Day 3) was all about clearing out from camp, packing up and yet more entertainment. After the awards ceremony, a minimum of two hours on the world's largest fairground. Birds of prey, crafting, zorbing, bell-ringing, parkour, BMX, magicians, assault courses, silent disco, all the world's inflatables of varying shapes and sizes, and much, much more. It offers extraordinary value for money for our Young People and is an absolute must for next year and beyond.

With a revived approach to District level involvement across the 18-25 age range, there is much scope for additional activity in 2025/6. ScareFest is taking place 31 Oct - 2 Nov 25 at Gilwell Park and is currently live on OSM. Norway 26 takes place next Feb half term - we've got 3 x Young People (YP) and 1 x Leader going - there are some very 'cool' activities planned including cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, ice fishing, igloo and snow-hole building, fire-lighting amongst others.

And now, coming full circle, it is with regret that we announce the closure of Tuesday Unit. We have sadly lost one of our volunteers due to increased work commitments and, despite seeking additional volunteers to assist in running the Unit, none have come forward. Therefore from next month we'll revert to a single Explorers Unit here in Warminster - we will continue to meet on a Monday between 1930-2100. If anyone is interested in assisting (so that we can reverse this decision), please let us know soonest.

Monday Explorers

Explorers' Leadership Team

It's been another fantastic year for our Explorers, with a real mix of activities that have challenged us, built skills, and given us plenty of fun along the way.

We've kept active with hikes, command tasks, and plenty of games evenings. There have also been countless opportunities to build practical skills through Chinese new year origami, firelighting and cooking evenings galore. We kicked things off with a netball session, which went down brilliantly and showed off some real teamwork and spirit

As part of our commitment to the community, the Explorers came armed with garden tools to a clean-up at the Garston community centre. Despite it being right at the end of exam season and raining, we did a fantastic job in clearing and improving the space, showing how much can be achieved when we work together.

A real highlight of the year was an evening at the Army Simulation Centre. Supported by the Army team, we got stuck into strategy, challenges, and plenty of excitement

Finally, we rounded things off with a successful camp alongside the Thursday Scouts and Strategy. I'll leave it to Jake to share more about that, but it was a brilliant way to finish off a busy year.

The Explorers have shown resilience, commitment, and a great sense of humour this year — balancing activities, service, and exams. We're looking forward to building on that energy in the year ahead.

Accounts for 2024+25

Warminster Scout Group - Accounts for 2024-2025						
Start of Year - 1st April 2024						
Lloyds Main Account						£3,995.42
Lloyds Savings Account						£17,848.82
Opening Balance						£21,844.24
Income			Expenditure			
	Budget	Actual		Budget	Actual	
Subscriptions	£18,240.00	£19,247.31	Maintenance	£1,500.00	£7,123.33	
Donations	£500.00	£4,018.39	Rent / Storage	£0.00	£0.00	
Fundraising- Event 1	£500.00	£150.00	Scout Levy	£7,600.00	£8,046.00	
Fundraising- Event 2	£0.00	£348.53	Heat / Light	£1,700.00	£2,416.83	
Fundraising- Event 3	£0.00	£0.00	Water	£200.00	£465.52	
Bank Interest	£120.00	£199.12	Insurances	£1,185.00	£1,537.20	
Rental Income	£0.00	£0.00	Training	£300.00	£0.00	
Section Activities	£0.00	£5,160.27	Uniform	£475.00	£220.95	
Camp Activities	£0.00	£12,420.91	Hut Lease		£0.00	
Gift Aid	£2,000.00	£2,432.59	Equipment	£1,000.00	£152.96	
Other	£0.00	£661.75	Fire / Safety Inspect	£400.00	£238.32	
			Section Activities	£4,000.00	£11,058.54	
			Camp costs	£1,000.00	£12,976.79	
			Donations	£50.00	£55.00	
			AGM + Trustee exp	£250.00	£352.29	
			Travel / Mileage	£250.00	£40.90	
			Other	£1,000.00	£675.74	
			Support Fund	£0.00	£0.00	
			Subs bad debt	£300.00	£0.00	
Sub-Total	£21,360.00	£44,638.87	Sub-Total	£21,210.00	£45,360.37	
Income v Expenditure						-£721.50
End of Year - 31st March 2025						
Lloyds- Business Account						£3,074.80
Lloyds-Saving Account						£18,047.94
Closing bank balance						£21,122.74
Known Expenditure but not yet presented in 2023-24						£0.00
Provisions for Scout Levy & Insurance (to be removed when actuals submitted)						
Cash balance						£21,122.74
Spreadsheet checksum verification (should be zero)						£ -