



Reports and Accounts for the Year ended 31st March 2009

1st Burgess Hill Scout Council

President

TRUSTEES: *Ex-Officio* - Appointment

Group Scout Leader

Group Chairman

Group Secretary

Group Treasurer

Scout Leader

Scout Leader

Cub Leader

Cub Leader

Beaver Leader

Beaver Leader

TRUSTEES: *Elected*

Name

Graham Frost

Jenny Theabold

Margaret Larcombe

Piers Bonnett

Bruce Milligton

Paula Slater

James Sayer resigned May 2008

Lynn Cheal

Name

BANKERS

Barclays Bank PLC

CUSTODIAN TRUSTEES (if any)

Group Registration Number with The Scout Association

Scout Association Trust Corporation

6399

Charity Registration Number

305834

Contact Name and Address

Margaret Larcombe

52 Orchard Road

Burgess Hill

West Sussex

RH15 9PL

1st Burgess Hill Scout Council

Trustees Annual Report for the year ended 31st March 2009 MAJOR ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE YEAR

Treasurers Report / Chairman's Report

Another busy year, during which we have had the garage roofs repaired. We also replaced the perimeter fence alongside Queen Elizabeth Avenue at a cost of £1500 and had the main hall floor treated.

Although the group has a healthy balance sheet, when you consider the size of the HQ, most of our funds need to be held in reserve to cover building contingencies.

We still have playgroup every week day, and the dance school and also a martial arts group who meet every week. Unfortunately we shall be losing the Playgroup at the end of July which will make a considerable difference to our income for the year 2009/2010. Our weekend party bookings have once again been very good and this has helped with the fundraising. Because of complaints from the neighbours it has been decided that we will no longer hire out for adult parties.

We still have a few families who have not signed up for gift Aid but hope that all will be completed soon and nearly all now pay by standing order which makes both the Leaders' and my job easier.

As reported in last year's report sometime in the next few years the drive will need to be re topped and one of the bank accounts is to cover this cost. When I took over we had to take out a loan from West Sussex Scout Council to pay for the drive and I do not intend to have to do this again, hence the savings account for this.

Unfortunately we have still not had the disabled facilities work done but part of the balance in hand is reserved for this. Once this work has been completed this figure will be considerably reduced. We hope to have the work completed during 2009 / 2010. We also need to replace the wooden garage door during the next financial year.

Whilst we are having the toilets refurbished we plan to update the kitchen to meet health requirements and also make alterations upstairs to incorporate a shower and to toilets. Also to remove the dividing wall between the Magnum and Brosnan rooms to make a larger meeting facility. Once we have the toilets upstairs it will give us more scope to let this room out.

I am pleased to report that the Auditors have once again agreed to audit the books for next year. Hopefully the full inventory of equipment within the headquarters will be completed by the end of 2009. An interim one will be submitted to the Insurance Company at the beginning of September.

As to the chairman's report most of it has been reported above but a couple of things I would like to add. I am pleased to say that after nearly nine years of holding both positions we have at last found someone to take over as Chairman and I would like to welcome John Bonnett to the Group. He will take over during April 2009.

Unfortunately we lost Joanne (HQ cleaning) at the end of July 2008 but I am pleased to say that two ladies have taken over and job share the work and the HQ is now benefitting from their effort.

Finally I would like to thank Jane & Brenda (HQ cleaning), John (HQ Maintenance), all the Scouter's and especially Graham for their support during the last year.

Margaret Larcombe

Group Scout Leader's Report

Through the commitment and dedication of our Leaders and regular helpers, we have continued to run full programmes for all of our six Sections. Every Section continues to be well supported by our young people and I am delighted that our last Census Return showed that our overall membership had again increased. Congratulations to all involved.

We congratulate all those who have won badges and awards during the past year, in particular the Beavers who have received their Bronze Awards, the Cubs who have received their Silver Awards and the Scouts who are being recommended for their Gold awards. We also congratulate all those who have represented our Group in District or County events with, I am delighted to report, a very high level of success. These events include the Downsman and the Overland hikes. Well done to you all!

I would also like to repeat the appeal that I seem to make every year. Our Group relies heavily on the support of families and friends in order to provide quality Scouting for our growing number of Beavers, Cubs and Scouts and our continued success is dependant upon the commitment made by our Leaders, regular helpers and Trustees. It is vital to the future of our six Sections that more adults become involved with meetings and other Group activities on a regular basis.

I am extremely aware that ever-increasing demands are being made of those who already actively support our Group. We desperately need more adults who are prepared to train as Leaders and Assistant Leaders and others who can help in other ways.

The skills and values learnt through Scouting contribute significantly to the personal development of our children and the importance of Scouting is recognised by other organisations working with young people. Scouting has never been more relevant than today, particularly in view of the current social climate. We have a duty to ensure that quality Scouting continues to be accessible. Rather than going home for the hour or so between dropping your child off and collecting them, why not stay and help? Helping even once or twice a month will make a significant difference.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank, both personally and on behalf of the Group all those who have in some way supported or contributed to the activities of the Group during the past year, in particular our Leaders, Assistant Leaders and Section Assistants. Special thanks are given to Margaret Larcombe for all her hard work. Margaret has for some considerable time been acting as our Chairman as well as our Group Treasurer.

I would like to formally thank all those parents who have supported the Group in other ways by taking on various roles within the Group. I must reiterate, however, the continued need for further adult help, in particular for our Group Support Team.

Special thanks go Bruce Millington, who stood down as Cub Leader at the beginning of this year due to other commitments. Bruce along with Phil Barnett had been responsible for growing the Baden Cub Section.

This year we will be celebrating our Group Centenary and one of the special events will be a Family Camp, which I am sure will be a great success. Only with your support can we take the 1st Burgess Hill Scout Group into its second centenary and continue to go from strength to strength.

Graham Frost.
Group Scout Leader

The trustees would like to thank all those who have helped with the HQ refurbishments. To John Tollemache our Maintenance Man for keeping the HQ in order who is retiring at the end of July. To Nicki Quine for her hard work in getting bookings for the HQ. To Jane Adams & Brenda William for keeping the HQ clean and tidy during the year. A special thanks to all the Scouters and Helpers for the time they have given to the youngsters over the past year.

The Group/District is a trust established under its rules, which are common to all Groups/Districts.

Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation & Rules of The Scout Association

The accounts have been drawn up on the accruals basis, which is consistent with the previous year.

Approved by the trustees on 1st June 2009 and signed on their behalf by

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Margaret Larcombe". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Margaret Larcombe
Group Executive Treasurer