

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Hampton Hill (St. James) Scout Group

Chair: Mr. Martin Riddell

Group Scout Leader: Mr. Richard Moody

Treasurer: Mr. Mark Hunter

Secretary: Mrs. Sandra Marshall

Life President: Mr. John Nielsen

Scout Registration Number: 27686 Registered Charity: 303816

**Annual Report for the period April 2010 – April 2011**  
**Financial Statements for the year ending 31 March 2011**

***'Life is an adventure . . . Live it!'***



This report has been approved and agreed by the Trustees acting as the Group Executive Committee.

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Welcome to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Hampton Hill Scout Group Annual Report for the Financial Year ending 31 March 2011.

We have an extremely active Group and in this report we hope to give an overall view of the wealth of activities undertaken by the Group and our achievements over the last 12 months. I hope you will find it informative and interesting.

Richard Moody, the Group Scout Leader, has provided an excellent summary of the activities of the Group with Section Leaders providing more detail for each of their sections. Our Treasurer, Mark Hunter, has provided a summary of our financial position. You will also receive a copy of the audited accounts for the year.

A key achievement this year was the clearance of the 'The Office' (room at the Scout HQ) followed by the installation of racking and new storage boxes. A big thanks to all involved with special thanks to John Hawkins, Paul Carr and Jane Riggs for their hard work.

Our key project for this year will be the building of a new trailer storage facility. As you are probably aware our trailer was stolen earlier this year. This new building will enable us not only to securely store our replacement trailer but it also gives us much needed additional storage space, necessary for meeting the needs of a group this size. We have successfully gained planning permission and are now moving forward to secure funding.

We hope to hold a Quiz night again in March 2012 which will be based on the very successful event held in 2011.

3<sup>rd</sup> Hampton Hill is one of the most active and successful Scout Groups in the South-East, if not the UK. There are 3 reasons for this;

First and most important is the enthusiasm and effort of every single Beaver, Cub and Scout in the Group. Every parent should be justifiably proud of their son's or daughter's efforts and activities within the Group

Second is the leadership and the commitment shown by the Leadership Team and I would like to thank them on your behalf for all their hard work in making this Group the success it is.

Finally and equally important is the contribution from the parents in various roles and activities. I cannot over-emphasise how important this is to the success of the Group and again, on behalf of the Leadership team I would like to thank all parents who have contributed throughout the year in various ways. It is great to see people working together in a common cause to make things work. There are many opportunities for parents to contribute to the Group's activities; cleaning co-ordinator, booking secretary, parent rep etc. Most roles take no more than a couple of hours a month. If you think you can help, please see any member of the Leadership Team

Finally I hope you can join us for the AGM and (late) Summer BBQ on Saturday Sept 17<sup>th</sup>. I look forward to seeing you there

***Martin Riddell***

Chair (Group Executive Committee)

## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND REPORTS**

### **GROUP SCOUT LEADER - *Looking back over the last year . . .***

Once again I have marvelled at the fantastic quality, creativity and ingenuity of the Sectional Programmes; and the sheer dedication of the Leadership Teams in delivering a consistently excellent and engaging range of activities for all sections. The continuing success of the Group is due to the devotion, hard work and efforts of the Leadership Team, Group Executive and the band of parents that continue to give their time freely. The achievements and growth of this Group could not happen without their enthusiasm and contribution for which I am truly grateful and very thankful.

The Annual Census Group Membership numbers (as at January 2011) were constant. We have a waiting list for Beavers (it is never too early to get a name onto the list!) and continue to get enquiries about joining all Sections. The main driver for increased membership is through extra adults helping, with some limited entries for youth membership. We have been fortunate to increase our adult leadership and support team this year and a number of leaders are undertaking leadership training.

All Sections have provided an incredible programme of activities which you'll hear more of in their reports. Sections have been active at a National, County and District level as well as in the local wider community, and have provided lots of outdoor adventure and many hundreds of '*residential nights away*' (sleepovers and camps). Very well done to all.

Church Parades are usually held on the first Sunday of each month during term time at St James Church. Each Section is involved with 'hosting' one of the Church Family services on a pre-planned programme. To keep the Church informed of our activities and plans, minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Hampton Hill Scout Group Executive Committee Meetings are emailed to the Vicar and we provide an annual report for the Parish on our activities.

There was a high turnout at the District St George's Day Parade in April 2010. Since the Centenary of Scouting in 2007, this has become an annual event in Richmond. Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorer Scouts and Leaders from the whole District walked from Richmond Green, through Richmond, over the Bridge and assembled to renew their Scout Promise in Orleans Park School in Twickenham.

The Group AGM and BBQ, complete with bouncy castle, was held at our headquarters in July 2010. All Sections marched along the High Street in the annual Hampton Hill Xmas Tree Lighting-Up Parade.

***We are actively seeking to bolster the Group Executive with new parent reps (in a number of roles) and are also seeking more help in all sections.***

### **PLANS FOR THE FUTURE AND OTHER INFORMATION**

A 'Kandersteg' Review (our recent International Camp to Switzerland) – a 'show and tell' evening with a chance to look at all the pictures, hear the stories and experiences. Date and details to be announced.

We have 'Twickeree' in June 2012 (the tri-annual District Camp) at Marble Hill Park – the theme for which will be Olympics and Queens Jubilee.

**As a group we must continue to move, adapt and grow. There will be some changes in the leadership as we move forward this year and beyond.**

**Looking ahead, the recruitment of additional adult help, support and leadership remains our top priority.** We continue to seek additional adult help and support in all sections to avoid a reduction in the quality in all of the Section's programmes and to cope with increased numbers and for leadership succession planning. We also need assistance and regular support with section administration, HQ maintenance and cleaning, publicity and fund raising. Training, guidance, support and help is all available... along with lots of fun and a real sense of achievement. We welcome all interest and additional support no matter how small the offer. **Please speak to any Section Leader about how YOU can help. Come and join the team ☺.**

Contact the Group Scout Leader, Richard Moody on (020) 8286 6918 for further information.

**"Many hands make light of work".** To continue the success & growth of the group we need extra 'hands'.

We can **ALL** make a meaningful contribution, however small, to the future and achievements of this successful and thriving group. No offer of help or assistance will be refused. We all have a part to play.

## BEAVER SCOUT COLONIES

3rd Hampton Hill Scout Group has two Beaver Scout Colonies (a total of 36 Beavers) which both meet on a Friday night. We have had a very busy year, taking part in lots of fun activities both within their Colonies and with the District.

### Section Meetings

Beavers have been busy earning lots of badges this year including: the animal friend, experiment, explore and creative activity badges. Many have also completed their global, promise and outdoor challenge badges. Over the past 12 months we have given out over 230 badges to proud smiley beavers.

During the past year beavers have made chocolate spiders, woolly bats, and sherbet, and learnt about Fair Trade and the Country Code. They sat and listened to Will Williamson as he told us about his preparations for Jamboree, met the local police and learnt about Habitat for Humanity from Simon Riggs. A big thank you to our visitors. We worked hard to gain our experiment badges cleaning pennies, and the beavers were very impressed that the best substance to clean pennies with is tomato ketchup. We have swum many beavers up to cubs, welcomed lots of new beavers and played lots of new games.

### Events

We took part in the District Fun day at Walton Firs, the District New Year party and a District Safety badge event. Eight beavers attended family camp, many earning their first night away. The highlight of the year was sledging at Sandown, the perfect way to end the summer term.

### Future events

Christmas sleepover at the hall.

Beaver fun day at Walton Firs.

Looking forward to Twickeree 2012, and have started work on the Twickeree Challenge Badge.

### Leadership

Suzanne Flude has stepped down from being a section assistant, she is greatly missed by the beavers and the leaders (she continues to support the Group as part of the Executive and on other activities). Currently the early section of beavers runs with Jane Riggs as beaver leader and Lesley Eiloart as assistant leader. The late group runs with Jane Riggs as beaver leader and a parent rota. Ideally we would have 2 beaver leaders, and 2 assistant leaders. **All and any offers of help gratefully received.**

We currently have 4 Explorer Young Leaders; Michel Flowers, Gavin Marshall, Joshua Gould and Alex Lloyd, who are great fun to work with and they work very hard.

Jane

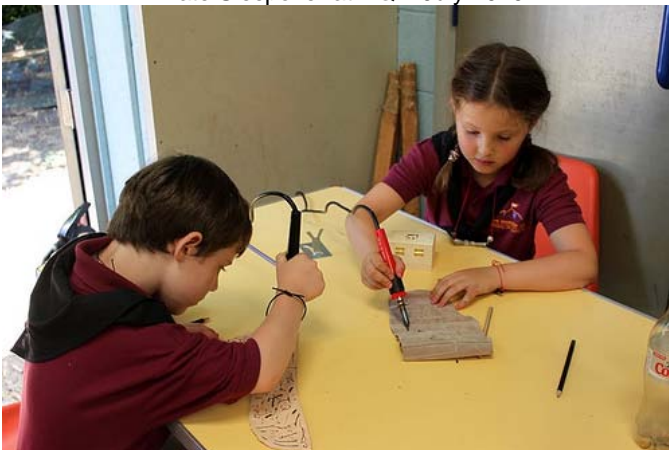
Beaver Scout Leader

## Beavers

Themes based on: Outdoor Challenge Badge, Air Badge, Safety and Creative Activity Badges, games, making chocolate spiders, Quiz Night, Noisy Night making drums, making straw bridges and 'papier mache' bowls. Some beavers have also completed the Chief Scout Bronze Award.



Pirate Sleepover at HQ – July 2010



Sledging at Sandown - July 2010

Events and visits: Ringos at Sandown, Pirate Sleepover, Christmas Tree Lighting Up Parade, Beaver Xmas sleepover at the Scout Hall, District Fun Day. Talk on 'Habitat for Humanity'.



## CUB SCOUT PACKS

3<sup>rd</sup> Hampton Hill Scout Group has two Cub Scout Packs: 'Nevis' (which meets on a Monday) and 'Snowdon' (which meets on a Wednesday).

Themes based on: Global, Fitness, Promise and Community challenges, with the My Faith, Global Conservation, Naturalist, Athlete and Emergency Aid Stage 2 rolled in.

Events: District Sports '10 (winners), District Swimming Gala (winners), District Cub Cart Wars (junior group winners and senior group runners-up), District Quiz (fourth). At Borough Camp, Cubs got through to a Volleyball semi-final and came Runners-up in the Football. Some Cubs went on the County CuBeaver Jambo event and had an amazing time.

Visits included Steve Clark representing someone who has done their best, Fair trade, and a personal fitness trainer.

The Cub leadership team continues to run a balanced programme based primarily around the requirements of the 6 Challenge badges and encouraging parents to complete the activity badges at home, suggesting what is logical for the term based on the challenge badges. This frees up time to concentrate on the more traditional scouting skills.

Both Packs have remained extremely busy with a full take-up from Beavers, and we have an almost 100% moving on rate to Scouts. We still have to redirect several potential Cubs to other Richmond-Upon-Thames Packs. The strength of the two 3HH packs continues to be delivered through a carefully thought out and planned programme that takes into account the six Cub challenge badges and a variety of other core Cub Scout activity badges to ensure we keep developing our young people. Once again we have been able to celebrate the issue of several Chief Scouts Silver Awards, the highest award that a Cub can attain.

Camping and outdoor activity and adventure is still a major part of our agenda. We've had a pack Easter James Bond camp at Downe campsite with a Superhero Summer Camp at Chalfont Heights. The cubs also joined the Beavers for a sleepover at the 3HH Scout HQ. In total our cubs had almost 200 nights away in 2010.

When it comes to Leadership, 3HH Cubs are still in the fortunate position of having two full Cub Scout Leaders ('Akela's'), Jon and Wend. Pack nights are still wonderfully supported by Laura, Diana and David. We continue to have support and youthful input of our full time Young Leaders, Sam, Rosie and Chris, and some of the Scouts, as well as some DofE helpers, Anna and Liam. Top effort to all you guys and a big thank you from all the Leaders.

Adult and parental help has been first class, too many to list, but in every way brilliant. There have been some significant new helpers on camp, Fiona, Fidelma, Ali, Andy and Chris. Once again, several of our District events have been run entirely by parents and this makes so much difference to being able to do things effectively. Parents have also made significant contributions of time and effort at our longer pack holidays and it is impossible to convey enough thanks to all of them. Please do remember that we're a totally voluntary organisation, but there is only so much we can deliver and we are required by law to maintain adult to child ratios so if anyone out there is just a little bit interested then have a chat to someone who has been and see if it's for you. One thing is for sure, we can promise you a lot of fun!!

As always, we'll finish with the Cubs. We said the same last year and it needs no amendment. The superb, brilliant, fun, hard-working, active, caring and kind 3HH Cubs. You're on a journey to Scouts and beyond and as long as you all keep coming and doing your best we can only succeed.

Cub Leadership Team  
August 2011



Super Heroes at Summer Camp – August 2010

## Cubs

Themes based on: Promise Challenge, Fitness Challenge and Athlete Activity Badges, trying badminton and a visit from a personal trainer.

Events: Sixers and Seconders camp (training older cubs in preparation for scouts), District Sports, District Swimming Gala (winners), Cubs sleepover, District Cub Challenge Quiz

Visits to: the Lookout at Bracknell and to an ice hockey match.

Camps: Easter camp (theme Pirates of the Caribbean), Borough camp, Summer camp (theme Super heroes).

The Cub leaders continue to run a balanced programme based primarily around the requirements of the Challenge badges.



## SCOUT TROOPS

Tuesday Claws Troop are now led by John Williamson, Mark Hamilton, Sarah Schleich, and John Hawkins. Friday Talons Troop by Simon Riggs, Paul Fitchett and Paul Carr. All enthusiastically and ably assisted by, Christine, Dave, Paul, Darrell, Tom, Ann and Clare.

Our aim is always to make the Adult experience pleasant and convivial and whilst we continue to attract some new blood into our team we want to continue this trend to keep the dynamism going. So if you have ever thought that you need a pleasant diversion from your current demands; would like to try new adventurous things, or are having a little guilt nag that you would like to contribute back to a way of life that maybe helped shape your character, why not come and have a look during our evening meets, and perhaps demonstrate skills, or help us with simple tasks like getting packed up for camp. No offer is refused, however sporadic, and no one is ignored or overburdened. We look forward to hearing from you.

At 3HH we want all of our scouts to have equal opportunities to benefit from our balanced program planning and we achieve this is by running a single common program for our two very full troops; Claws on Tuesdays and Talons on Fridays.

We spread the planning load across the Leadership team, maximizing their experience and learning opportunities and building up our leadership base, providing as many exciting scouting experiences as possible.

Our numbers suggest that we are achieving this so far as Scouts are concerned and by attracting back an invaluable, nay, indispensable pool of Young Leaders who provide that essential sense of continuity and Role models for the Scouts

Since our last AGM we have produced 15 Chief Scout Gold Award holders by completing their quota of Challenge badges.

We have achieved this through themes based on Scout skills like camping (our nights away total per capita is one of the greatest in the district) fire lighting, backwoods cooking, navigation and expedition competitions, pioneering, first aid and water skills with local Sea Scouts and Thames Young Mariners.

Summer camp in 2010 was a major change for the team with a trip to the Peak District to camp at a beautiful but remote location south of Buxton. Unlike our usual locations this site had no activities at all apart from pioneering poles and so the week consisted of more basic activities such as a complete day building huge pioneering structures across the stream running through our site; climbing on a real rock face at the Roaches; catching, dispatching and cooking our own supper from the local trout farm and hiking around Castleton with an underground boat ride deep in a cavern. We found out on the last day that this site was close to the wettest part of Britain, but that's camping for you! Altogether an immense camp.

This year our scouts have achieved major awards for shooting by taking 1st and 2nd place at Richmond District Rifle Competition, winning the majority of the trophies at Kingston's District Rifle Competition and some of our Scouts have been selected to join the elite squad who train for the England Youth Shooting Squad to represent our Country in international Competitions. The culmination of this was with our best ever results at the National Scout Air Rifle Championships at Bisley, taking team rifle and pistol trophies, a large number of individual winners in the team too all contributing to 3HH running out as the overall junior winners, lifting the Duke of Connaught trophy.

We ended our term with our annual Easter Camp and back to Downe in Kent we went much in fear of the weather as we had experienced blizzards and freezing temperatures last time we were there. Instead we were blessed with unusually warm and sunny weather and enjoyed an excellent time, especially on our joint camp-fire with the cubs.

One of our scouts was selected for one of the 54 places that are available from this County to go to the Scout Jamboree in Sweden in 2011. And at the same time the rest of us are looking forward to our fast approaching overseas camp at Kandersteg, Switzerland

As we move through our summer term the troops continue to gain strength both in Scout numbers and with leadership and help.

Sadly for us, but joyfully for Carole, Paul Fitchett has decided to retire from front line Scout Section Leadership after a massive 18 years of dedication to 3HH and our local children. Many of us leaders too owe a heap of thanks to Paul for his unstinting inspiration and guidance both to ourselves and our kids, who even when fledged still look to him with enviable respect. Great job Paul!

Luckily he is not leaving entirely and we gain a Quarter Master to look after the camp store and a shooting skills instructor to lead us to continued successes.

In summary;

Themes based on: fire lighting, building water rockets, craft activities, backwoods cooking, expedition skills, cycling.

Badges on: Global Challenge, Pulling (rowing), Navigator Activity and Expedition Challenge, Fire Safety and Fitness Challenge.

Events and visits: Thames Young Mariner District Water Weekend, Great Parent Scout Cookout, Expedition Challenge Cycling Camp, Firework Night, and Patrol Leaders' training camp.

Competitions: Superscout competition, NPL water rocket competition, Day Prowl (1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>), Kingston's District Rifle Competition, National Scout Air Rifle Championships at Bisley (3<sup>rd</sup> in the Junior Connaught and 2<sup>nd</sup> in Team Pistol), District Swimming Gala, District Volleyball Tournament, NSRA YPS Course, Richmond District Rifle Competition, County Night Hike. More information and the scouts' excellent results in these competitions are posted on our web site [www.3hhscoouts.org.uk](http://www.3hhscoouts.org.uk).

Paul Fitchett & John Williamson

ASL's (on behalf of the Scout Leadership Team)

## SCOUTS

Activities: knots, fire lighting, hikes, water activities, building water rockets, cooking, expedition skills, building chariots, rowing the Royal Barges at Richmond, cycling, Great Parent Scout Cookout, Firework Night, Patrol Leaders' training camp.

Competitions: Superscout competition, NPL water rocket competition, Day Prowl, Kingston's District Rifle Competition, National Scout Air Rifle Championships at Bisley (with the Group's best ever results), District Swimming Gala, District Volleyball Tournament, NSRA YPS Course, Richmond District Rifle Competition, County Night Hike.



Summer camp in the Peak District – July 2010



Chief Scout Gold Award – May 2010

Badges: First Aid badge.

Camps: Easter camp at Phasels Wood, Thames Young Mariner District Water Weekend at Ham, Borough Camp at Walton Firs, Summer camp in the Peak District.

## EXPLORER SCOUT UNIT

The Group has links to Hampton Explorer Unit and many of the Scouts make a successful transition to this Explorer Unit. The Unit meets on a Monday evening at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Hampton Scout HQ in Percy Rd, Hampton. Explorer numbers are strong and continue to grow year on year. Many Explorers return to 3<sup>rd</sup> Hampton Hill in the role of Young Leaders. They play a vital role in helping sections and we hope are the future leaders of the Group.

## FINANCIAL REVIEW – TREASURERS STATEMENT FY 2010/2011

Another year down and to ring the changes I will start with my gratitude's; Malcolm Foreman for again tolerating my 'non-accountant' way of doing things and acting as independent scrutineer. Great thanks must also go to Juliet Hunter for again handling the majority of your cheques; handling bundles of them to me to sign for banking. Between the two of us we have used up 6 cheque books and 5 paying in books! As a pure guesstimate at ten cheques per page and forty pages per book that equates to 2000 cheques paid in! (Although I think I under estimate!). Don't get me wrong though, I welcome such activity as it reflects, as always, on just how active all sections of the group are! I am sure we can all recognise that fact!

The accounts are a record of that activity and below you can see some of the guaranteed expenditure that we incur year on year:

- |                                      |                               |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • Annual Membership Fee (Capitation) | £5292.00 (last year £ 5565)   |
| • Utilities                          | £1273.77 (last year £1629.47) |
| • Insurance                          | £1796.37 (last year £1622.95) |

The financial situation in the country as a whole means that we are not receiving any notable interest on our savings but we remain solid as we hold none of our assets in a form vulnerable to market fluctuations.

Our savings figure remains strong but we have now focussed the group on a single project which will make considerable inroads on this figure. We have decided that due to the success of the group we are 'bursting at the seams' and are pursuing the addition of a new storage area at the rear of the current building. This will bring welcome space to the group whilst providing a secure area to put our replacement trailer in.

Such a project will exceed our savings so we will be looking for skills either practical, administrative or fund raising in nature. All offers welcome!

The increase in savings on the year reflects the final year's contribution to the Kandesteg trip for the scouts. This will finally play itself out this year as the trip is now finished and the bills have started to roll in. This will see us back to more normal savings levels.

To keep us topped up it is always good to see any fund raising ideas pulled off; two memorable ones being the quiz night and the cake stall. Thanks in turn to John Hawkins et al for the quiz and to Ann Shuttleworth, Clare Chidzey and friends who withstood the worst that the British summer could throw at them to raise well in excess of £200 despite the flood!

Again we have seen a high level of expenditure on group assets to improve the groups camping experience. This takes the form of adding to the canvass holding and also in replacing equipment that has passed its useful lifetime. With John Hawkins and Paul Fitchett now jointly taking on the role of Group Quartermasters this activity will be of great benefit to the group. Thanks to Simon Riggs for increasing the number of swingers in the group! He secured funding to buy a number of hammocks and tarps so that more of the group could sleep under the stars! (What did you think I meant?)

We are now well into the next scouting year and if we are to continue to be as successful going forward then I must reinforce any request for volunteers that others may have made. In terms of any voluntary group the phrase 'Many hands make light work' is never more true so if you think you could take on a role of even offer a couple of hours here and there it will not be refused and you will gain great satisfaction knowing that you were able to help in such a great scout Group.

Mark Hunter – Hon. Treasurer

## **APPENDIX – GROUP GOVERNANCE**

### **REFERENCE & ADMINISTRATION DETAILS**

3<sup>rd</sup> Hampton Hill (St. James) Scout Group

Charity Registration Number : 303816

Scout Association Group Registration Number : 27686

Headquarters Address: The George Stanley Hall, 'The Triangle', rear of Holly Road Recreation Ground, School Road Avenue, Hampton Hill.

Contact details: Group Scout Leader Mr Richard Moody (020) 8286 6918 moodyric@msms.com

Independent Examiner (Accounts) Mr Malcolm Foreman

List of the Trustees:

- Mr Richard Moody (Group Scout Leader)
- Mr Paul Fitchett (Skills Instructor and Quartermaster)
- Mr Martin Riddell (Chair)
- Mr Mark Hunter (Treasurer)
- Mrs Wend Williamson (Cub Leader)

### **OBJECTIVES**

“To promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual social and spiritual potential, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.”

### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT**

3<sup>rd</sup> Hampton Hill (St James) Scout Group is an autonomous charitable trust affiliated to The Richmond-upon-Thames District Scout Council and the County of Greater London South West Scout Council (GLSW), and to the Scout Association. The rules under which the Group operate are authorised by the Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR) of the Scout Association, which, in turn, are authorised by the Royal Charter.

The Group is supported and advised by the District Council (Richmond-Upon-Thames), the County and Scout Association Headquarters on all matters as needed or requested.

#### **GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

The Group Scout Leader (GSL) is appointed by the District Commissioner (DC) of Richmond-Upon-Thames Scout District.

The Chairman and 6 members of the Group Executive Committee are nominated by the Group Scout Leader, and their appointment confirmed at the Annual General Meeting.

Other officers of the Group Executive Committee are elected each year, at the Annual General Meeting. All Section Leaders holding an appointment become members of the Group Executive Committee as a result of their respective offices.

All adult leaders, sectional assistants and members of the Group Executive Committee are subject to Enhanced Clearance by the Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) and are given training appropriate for their posts through the District and County Training Teams.

The Group Executive Committee meets approximately every 6-8 weeks to discuss, plan and manage:

- The maintenance of Group Property and assets
- The raising of funds and administration of Group finance
- The insurance of persons, property and equipment
- Group public occasions
- Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support

- Appointing any sub-committees that may be appropriate
- Reviewing Health, Safety and Security of property, assets and people.

Minutes of the 3rd Hampton Hill Scout Group Executive Committee Meetings are emailed to the Vicar to keep St. James Church informed of our activities and plans.

Day to day decisions affecting the operation (management) of the Group is made by the Group Scout Leader, after appropriate consultation.

Day to day administration decisions are made by the Chairman, after appropriate consultation.

Leaders Meetings are held approximately every 8 weeks (twice per term).

The annual general meeting and Group Review is normally held in May each year (often as part of the annual Family Camp).

### **FINANCIAL RECORDS**

"The Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the Annual Report and Financial Statements in accordance with the Bye-Laws of the Scout Association and the Charity Commissioners.

These require the Group to select and apply suitable accounting policies, make reasonable and prudent judgements, keep proper financial records, and to prepare financial statements on the "going concern" basis for each financial year in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice – *Accounting and Reporting by Charities* (Charities SORP 2005).

Individual Scout Groups, as independent charities, are responsible for preparing their own annual financial statements and holding their own Annual General Meeting.

The financial statements have been subject to Independent Examination by Mr Malcolm Foreman.

### **FINANCIAL INVESTMENT POLICY**

The Trustees cautious approach to risk extends to its investments, and its reserves are only placed with highly secure, low risk funds. Day to days funds are kept with the Alliance and Leicester and cash is held for the shortest possible time before being paid into a bank.

By investing through the Scout Association and The COIF Charities Deposit Fund the Trustees seek to benefit from their published social, ethical and environmental investment policies.

### **FINANCIAL RESERVES POLICY**

It is the intention of the Group to hold sufficient reserves in cash and short term investments to:

- Meet possible short term liabilities.
- Cover any adverse phasing of income and expenditure for approved Section and Group activities and events.
- Provide 12 month Group operating costs.
- Ensure that Group Training needs are met.
- Be able to provide "start-up" or support funding for any new Section which meets key objectives.
- Be able to provide "start-up" or support funding for any specific activity which meets the Groups Objectives, and which may not be able to achieve short term self financing.