

# 6<sup>TH</sup> WHITLEY BAY (ST MARY'S) SCOUT GROUP

Reg charity 508183

15<sup>th</sup> July 2014

WELCOME TO OUR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

FOLLOWED BY

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND BBQ

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## Agenda for the Annual General Meeting 15<sup>th</sup> July May 2014

1. Welcome by Group Chair Lindsay Reid
2. Approval of membership of the Group Scout Council.  
It is proposed that all those who signed the admissions sheets tonight represent the Group Scout Council for the purposes of this Meeting. Proposed by Lindsay Reid and seconded by Group Secretary Ian Lamont.
3. Apologies for absence
4. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 21st May 2013 (Page 4)  
Proposed by Ian Lamont and seconded by Lindsay Reid.
5. Matters arising from the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting on 21<sup>nd</sup> May 2013.
6. Approval of the Treasurer's Annual Report and Accounts (Pages 6 to 10) Proposed by Group Treasurer Julie Stafford and seconded by Lindsay Reid.
7. Approval of the nomination of Lindsay Reid as Group Chair by Acting Group Scout Leader Scott Blackett.
8. Approval of the proposal defining a quorum for the Group Scout Council and for the Group Executive Committee.  
The quorum for a Group Scout Council meeting shall be 30.  
The quorum for a Group Executive Committee meeting shall be 8 including-  
    at least 2 from the Group Chairman, Group Secretary and Group Treasurer and  
    at least 2 from the Group and Section Leaders and  
    at least 2 Elected Members.  
  
Proposed by Lindsay Reid, seconded by Ian Lamont
9. Election of Group Secretary.  
Ian Lamont has been proposed by Lindsay Reid and seconded by Julie Stafford.
10. Election of Group Treasurer.  
Julie Stafford has been proposed by Lindsay Reid and seconded by Ian Lamont.
11. Election of members of the Group Executive Committee
  - a. There are to be up to 6 Elected Members. Proposed by Lindsay Reid, seconded by Ian Lamont.
  - b. The following people have been nominated as Elected Members;  
Joanne Chater  
Andrew Cooper  
Marieanne Good  
Mungo Nicolson  
Proposed by Lindsay Reid, seconded by Ian Lamont.
12. Approval of the nominations to the Group Executive Committee by the Acting Group Scout Leader.  
Josh Lumsden
13. Report by St Mary's Church, the Sponsoring Authority.
14. Appointment of an Independent Examiner of the Accounts. David Stafford proposed by Lindsay Reid, seconded by Ian Lamont.

15. Presentation of the Group Reports by Acting Group Scout Leader (pages 11 – 15)
16. Address by the District Commissioner
17. Chair's closing remarks.

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 6<sup>th</sup> Whitley Bay (St Mary's) Scout Group  
held on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2013**

1. Canon Robin Greenwood, Vicar of St Mary's welcomed everyone to the meeting and spoke about how much he had enjoyed his 8 year ministry here from which he retires on 26<sup>th</sup> May. All were invited to attend his final service on that date. The refurbishment of the 80-year old Church building is continuing with over £500,000 having been raised in donations and grants. He introduced Pat Moran and Mary Cooper who will be acting as the Church's liaison with young people through families and uniformed organisations with a view to building closer relationships. Ann Dodgson will continue her excellent work as the Church's representative on the Group Executive Committee.
2. Lindsay Reid welcomed all those attending her first AGM as Group Chair and was pleased to have made it there herself following a rather hectic day which had started in Poland and almost ended with a flat battery in an airport carpark. Lindsay is Group Manager for North Tyneside Council's Sports Development and Outdoor Leisure Facilities and has sons in the Beavers and Scouts. She has been a member of the Group Executive Committee for a number of years and has enjoyed her first year in the Chair.
3. The proposal that all those (49) who signed the admissions sheets tonight represent the Group Scout Council for the purposes of this Meeting, proposed by Lindsay Reid and seconded by Group Secretary Ian Lamont, was carried.
4. Apologies for absence had been received from Peter Nicol, County Commissioner and Acting District Commissioner for Whitley and District Scouts and John Jeffs, District Chair.
5. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2012, proposed by Ian Lamont and seconded by Lindsay Reid, was carried. There were no matters arising from these minutes.
6. Approval of the Treasurer's Annual Report and Accounts, proposed by Group Treasurer Julie Stafford and seconded by Lindsay Reid, was carried.
7. The meeting approved the nomination of Lindsay Reid as Group Chair by Acting Group Scout Leader Scott Blackett.
8. It was proposed by Lindsay Reid and seconded by Ian Lamont that:  
The quorum for a Group Scout Council meeting shall be 30.  
The quorum for a Group Executive Committee meeting shall be 8 including-  
at least 2 from the Group Chairman, Group Secretary and Group Treasurer and  
at least 2 from the Group and Section Leaders and  
at least 1 Elected Member (this had previously been 2 Elected Members but it was decided to reduce the number until we had more Elected Members).  
The proposals were carried.
9. Ian Lamont was re-elected unopposed as Group Secretary. Proposed by Lindsay Reid and seconded by Julie Stafford.
10. Julie Stafford was re-elected unopposed as Group Treasurer. Proposed by Lindsay Reid and seconded by Ian Lamont.

11. Election of members of the Group Executive Committee:
  - a. It was agreed that there should be up to 6 Elected Members. Proposed by Lindsay Reid, seconded by Ian Lamont.
  - b. Mairi Campbell and Joanne Chater were elected having been nominated by Lindsay Reid and seconded by Ian Lamont. Although there were no other nominations from the floor, Lindsay invited anyone interested in joining the Executive to speak to her after the meeting and several expressions of interest were received and will be followed up.
12. There were no nominations to the Group Executive Committee by the Acting Group Scout Leader.
13. Report by the St Mary's Church, the Sponsoring Authority. This had been largely covered earlier by Canon Greenwood but the Curate Benjamin Carter expressed the thanks of the Church to the Group for the redecorating and refurbishment work that they had carried out in the Church Hall.
14. David Stafford was re-appointed as Independent Examiner of the Accounts. Proposed by Lindsay Reid and seconded by Ian Lamont.
15. Closing remarks. Between them, Lindsay and Scott thanked the members of the Executive, the Section Leaders and their assistants for their work throughout the year; the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts for their effort, enthusiasm and energy, and the parents for their support of the Group at various meetings and events including the AGM.
16. The meeting then closed and was followed by "AGM – The Variety", an excellent show involving music, humour and dance produced and performed by members of all the Sections under the direction of Cub Scout Leader Tony Bennett. We then enjoyed liquid refreshments and a buffet prepared by Julie Stafford.

### Treasurer's Report and Accounts

This has been a successful year for the group with Income of £7,332.25 plus £3965.00 deposits paid towards the planned London trip with Expenditure of £7,585.71. Group Expenditure therefore exceeded Income by £253.46.

Items of note:-

**Income:** - The income raised for the year is down on last year partly due to the fact that no bag packs have been undertaken either at Christmas or Easter and also changes have been made to the way Gift Aid is claimed and our claim relating to 2011/2012 is outstanding but in hand to be completed in the near future.

However the collection of subscriptions continues to be well maintained and the use of payments by standing order remains successful. An increase of £1 per month, bringing the annual total to £84, was introduced in April 2013 with the majority of standing order payments now reflecting this increase.

**Expenditure:** - the group has continued to support various activities during the year across the sections. The events of note include the camps at Pigdon, Whittonstall together with other sleepovers and badge challenges.

Cash funds held by the group as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014 presently stand at £16,199.60. Of this £3,666.62 is held on the Expedition Account towards the London Camp 2014. The group presently owes £56.63 in respect of District Badges.

The accounts have been examined by the District Treasurer, David Stafford. My thanks to him and all those who have assisted the group during the last year.









## Chair's Report

The past 12 months have, as in previous years, been jam-packed with activities for all the young people involved in the 6<sup>th</sup> Whitley Bay Scout Group. As a member of the Executive Committee I regularly get to hear what the leaders have planned for the group but as a parent of a Cub and a Scout in the group, more importantly, I get to hear first hand what those experiences mean to the young people. I love the fact that whilst the environment here is so different to school, they are learning all the time and having such a great time too!!

Since the last AGM, the Beavers have enjoyed a huge array of activities and I know they had great fun working towards their Healthy Eating Badge – apparently the fruit salads went down a treat!! The Cubs had a brilliant evening celebrating Father's Day at The Quarry Centre and the Scouts enjoyed their camp at Pigdon and all the preparations that went with it.

Our numbers are at an all time high which is an indication of how much fun the young people are having but also how much hard work the Leadership Team put in – Scott, Tony, Kathryn & Susanna and the young leaders who provide the team with so much support, need to be thanked enormously. The weekly sessions themselves need hours of preparation and the team do all of this voluntarily.... Then comes the preparation for the camps and the extra activity sessions – it is safe to say that the commitment the team show is amazing and as The Chair and as a parent, I'm grateful for their huge efforts.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the rest of the Executive Committee for all of their 'behind the scenes' work and to the other occasional helper, parents, grandparents and carers who make the group as successful as it is. We can always do with more help so if you're interested in lending your support, whether its for an hour once a week, once a month or once a quarter, please contact me or any other member of the Exec Committee.

Here's to another successful year!!

**Lindsay Reid**  
**Group Chair**

## Group Scout Leader's Report

Another successful year!

It doesn't seem five minutes since the last AGM....

Over the past year, the leaders of all three sections have worked hard to provide interesting and challenging activities for all beavers, cubs and scouts. Scouting at the 6<sup>th</sup> couldn't happen without the time, effort, dedication and energy that they inject each week into the programme for the young people.

We continue to have a progressive group executive under the leadership of our group chairperson (Lindsay Reid), group treasurer (Julie Stafford) and our group secretary (Ian Lamont) – I'd like to take this opportunity to formally record my thanks for their support over the past year and also (I hope) for the foreseeable future.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank Ann Dodgson (of St Mary's church) for her support of the group over the past year.

This year again we have also taken part in the active kids scheme sponsored by Sainsbury's and collected over 5100 vouchers (again thank you to parents and also to St Mary's for helping us to do this).

I know over the Summer, all of the leadership teams will be working on developing creative and new programme ideas to deliver in the next year of Scouting, enabling us to challenge our young people to grow, develop and reach their maximum potential in the future. The behind the scenes work which often takes longer than running the activity is important to note and is vital to delivering scouting as its best!

Scouting at the 6<sup>th</sup> continues to offer exciting, varied and unique opportunities to our young people, and to more people than ever before. I'm really grateful to all of the leadership team – warranted, unwarranted and young leaders, for the amount of time and energy they inject into scouting at the 6<sup>th</sup> every week. It wouldn't work without you – so on behalf of the beavers, cubs, scouts and the executive – **a very big thank you.**

Yours in Scouting  
**Scott Blackett**  
**Acting Group Scout Leader**

### **Beaver Scout Section Report**

Our Beavers, as ever, have had a busy year!

We started off last summer doing the Outdoor Challenge badge, and the Adventure badge. Some of the activities obviously involved being outdoors; we walked along Tynemouth pier, visited Briar Dene, played games on the beach, and took part in a treasure hunt.

A few of the Beavers took part in a sleep over at the Centre for Life, at the Beaver-snore-asaurus, where we encountered dinosaurs in the dark!

We also took part in a sporty fun day at the Quarry centre.

The Autumn term saw us working for the Promise challenge badge, and the Faith badge.

As part of the faith badge, we had a very interesting visit to Whitley Bay Islamic centre, where we were given a very warm welcome.

We looked at the Beaver promise, particularly the bit when the Beavers promise to be 'kind and helpful'. The Beavers kept a 'good turn' diary where they recorded every day something they had done that was kind or helpful to someone else. It seems we have a colony of very helpful and kind Beavers! Well done!

January 2014 saw a new term, and the Beavers working towards their Global Challenge badge, and the Animal friend badge.

For the Animal friend badge, each Beaver had to look after an animal, or feed the birds, for a month, and record what they did each day. We also had a visit from Animal Antics, who brought a wide variety of animals for the Beavers to look at and hold; everything from hedgehogs to tarantulas!

The Global challenge involved learning about traditions from our country, and about other countries. We had a visit from the Monkseaton Morris men, who taught the Beavers some Morris dancing at a fun-filled evening. We learnt about Beavers in other countries, and learnt the Beaver Promise in several languages! We have links with a Scout group in Ukraine, and looked at some photos and craftwork they sent us, as well as sending cards and photos to them.

This summer we have been working towards the Fitness challenge badge, and the Healthy Eating badge.

As well as doing fitness activities we have done some food preparation too. The Beavers have made healthy snacks such as fruit salads, mini pizzas and sandwiches.

We have learnt about the importance of hygiene too, and the Beavers have each kept a record of when and why they washed their hands over a two week period.

We have also been working towards a special badge called the Grand Depart badge, in honour of the Tour de France beginning in Yorkshire this year. This has involved learning about France and French things, the Beavers have even had a French party! They have also learnt about the Tour de France, and about famous cyclists.

We have 21 Beavers at present, and as Beavers move into Cubs when they turn 8, we have more children waiting to take their places.

To help us, we have two Young Leaders, Joe and Bekky, who give us invaluable support. Thanks must also go to Katie, who is too young even to be a Young Leader, but who gives us lots of help every week. Well done the three of you!

Above all, we thank you, the parents, for being so supportive, and of course we thanks the Beavers for their interest and enthusiasm.

**Kathryn Lynn**  
**Beaver Scout Leader**

**Susanna Buckley**  
**Assistant Beaver Scout Leader**

## Cub Scout Section Report

So how do I summarise the last year in Cubs at the 6<sup>th</sup> Whitley Bay?

Well this is how....

2013/14 has been another fantastic year of Scouting at the 6<sup>th</sup> Whitley Bay Cubs.

Our numbers have steadily increased and we have again transferred more cubs into scouts than in previous years.

In May 2013 we had a number of Cubs attend the bi-annual district cub camp which was held at Ratlingate Scout Campsite; here the cubs took part in a Scottish themed weekend undertaking activities like, caber tossing, woggle making, bush craft, taking part in a ceilidh and much more. The cubs had great fun and gained a lot of knowledge and completed new badges and awards at the camp.

We held no summer camp during 2013 due to other events taking place.

Cubs represented our group at the district, Bowling, Chess and 5-A-Side football competition between November 2013 and February 2014, all of which we did brilliantly at with some great results coming from the young people.

In March 2014 we celebrated Mother's Day by taking a selection of cubs to Bluebells Flower Shop, Whitley Bay where they were taught and shown how to prepare bouquets, they were given guidance on which flowers to select and they chose a special flower to give to mothers to help celebrate the occasion, along with this we made a short DVD containing message of thanks and appreciation for all that mothers do! Visit this video on our YouTube channel to find out more!

June 2014 saw us celebrate Father's Day, we held our Father's Day celebration challenge at the district headquarters which saw teams going head to head in a number of challenges and events, this event was hugely supported and a great success.

The last year has seen the section complete another huge round of badges and we have plans to complete and finish a number of other badges and awards before the end of the year.

Our summer camp this year is in the final planning stages and the adventure begins on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> August when we will travel back to Paccar Scout campsite, Buckinghamshire.

My Assistant Cub Scout Leader Max Seed has chosen to take time out to concentrate on his career and further develop his skills and experience. I must thank him again for his hard work and dedication over the last 5 years. John Arkley has now stepped into this role and I wish him every success as we continue to develop the pack.

Each week I am supported by Laura Main, Paul Grange and Andrew Coulson. When not in university we are joined by Imogen Wright and Jack Swann all of whom have a wealth of experience and knowledge in the movement and the running of our cub section. We have also been joined by Aaron Horvath and Nathan Burn as Young Leaders who over the next 12 months will develop as young people as they bring with them new ideas and challenges that keep our activities fresh and modern!

All of the positive feedback received this year shows that we can and will continue to provide quality scouting at the 6<sup>th</sup> Whitley Bay.

Finally, a big thank you to the group, the executive committee and parents for your continued support.

I look forward to leading the section into another year of fun and adventure!

**Tony Bennett**  
Cub Scout Leader

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## Scout Section Report

Over the past year, we've seen a number of changes in the leadership team. Hugh Gallico has taken on the role of Assistant Scout Leader, Josh Lumsden has become a Troop Assistant and Scott Burn Continues in his role as occasional helper.

We've also been supported by two of our previous young leaders, Cameron Burn and Ben Hovarth (both of whom are leaving in the summer, Cameron to progress a career in the armed Forces and Ben to university). I've like to place on record my thanks to all of my team over the past year for their support, hard work and enthusiasm.

Scout numbers have increased since the last AGM and current stands at 24. A noticeable increase on numbers from last year.

Since the last AGM, scouts have taken part in our Summer camp at Pigdon (near Morpeth) where they split their time between a two day survival camp and two days in a "normal" (whatever that means in Scouting terms) camp. I'd like to also thank Tony Bennett (our Cub Leader) for his excellent work at camp (and his creative imagination for making the survival camp possible) and to Matthew O'Brien (previous Assistant Scout Leader now occasional helper).

While on survival camp scouts cooked on open fires, slept in hammocks and learn the art of shelter building which I've no doubt will have helped them solve problems, use their initiative and developed their team work skills.

We've also worked on the Model Makers activity badge, Craft activity badge, Athletes activity badge, Community Challenge and Promise Challenge over the year and a number of badges will be presented tonight to scouts in relation to these.

Looking forward we have a joint camp in London in the Summer with the Cub section and also an indoor weekend at Whittonstall in November. Details will be coming out shortly for that.

We also have a stay-a-wake planned for the Autumn (similar to last year where we raised over £130 for charity).

In addition we will also be undertaking a "refresh" project with the church hall to maintain the decoration that we undertook last year.

We've re-aligned patrols, made some promotions to patrol leader and assistant patrol leader and focused activities on team building and challenges as a fresh perspective to scouting.

I'd would also like to say a big thank you to you, as parents and supporters, for your help and support over the past year, and I hope for the foreseeable future, and finally to the scouts for turning up week after week and giving us the motivation (as leaders) whether they realise it or not, to keep volunteering!

Yours in Scouting

**Scott Blackett**  
**Scout Leader**