



Central Ribbleton Scout Group

**Annual Report 22nd April 2024
& Financial Statements**

**For the
Year Ended 29th February 2024**

Trustees' Annual Report April 2024
Financial Statement Year Ended 29th February 2024

Executive Committee (now Trustee Board) have the pleasure in presenting their report together with the Financial Statements.

The Group's name is the Central Ribbleton Scout Group and is based at Farrington Lane, Ribbleton, Preston, Lancashire, PR2 6LX.

Constitution & Purpose

The Scout Group is constituted in the terms of the Rules of The Scout Association, which is a charitable body incorporated by the Royal Charter.

The purpose of The Scout Association is to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities. The methods of achieving the aim of the association is by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training based on the Scout Promise and Law and guided by adult volunteer teams.

Trustees

Vacant	Chairperson
Vacant	Secretary
Kevin Stickley	Treasurer
Lesley-Ann Stickley	Group Scout Leader
Julia Worden	Assistant Group Scout Leader
Ann-Marie Phuong	Co-opted
Barbara Bates	Ex-Officio Blessed Sacrament Church Representative

Trustees are recruited and appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation & Rules (POR) of the Scout Association.

Activities & Achievements

During the year the Group has continued to provide Scouting to 3 sections. During this time the young people have continued to achieve following the programme of The Scout Association, its young people have gained over 400 badges. It has been an active part of the community, supporting The Parish Pantry, River Ribble Trust and Remembrance Sunday. Sectional Reports give greater detail.

Approved by the Group Executive Committee on _____ and signed on its behalf by

Chairperson

Treasurer's Report 29th Feb 2024

The group has had a fairly good year financially. Income has steadily increased over the year with more subscriptions being paid as in-line with increased numbers of the young people joining the group.

We made an operating profit for the year of £698. This, of course will remain in the group to help fund the following year.

The faces within the group have changed over the past 12 months, but total number Young people has stayed exactly the same, 54!

We have had to raise subs to £12.50 during the year, without this, we would be in deficit.

It has been a challenging year with utility prices rocketing, £1,178 just for gas, water and electric. This is an increase of over £500 for the year!

Badges are an important part of Scouting, we have spent £679 on badges, so well done to all the hard work put in by Beavers, Cubs and Scouts who've earned them. The price of badges are due to increase again by 5p each, may not sound a lot, but it adds up over the year. So, we've put an order in for 500 badges to save a considerable amount for the next coming year.

Another big cost for the group is Membership Capitation, the Scout Association Insurance charge, that increased from £1,672 (2022) to £1,840 (2023), but for the coming year it is a massive £2,704 (2024). And we're expecting another big increase for 2025.

We have received £560 of income from EasyFundraising, Roberts recycling and Think-Inks. So please keep us in mind, these don't cost our parents anything, but mean a great deal to the group.

Grants have been applied for from Lancashire County Council, Tesco and Asda to help our group. Gift-aid is another area of extra funding, this will be applied for very soon, the treasurer needs to find a few spare minutes. Gift aid donations still need to be approved by parents. It doesn't cost anything, parents that pay tax can help us get free funding from the government, we just need your confirmation, then the treasurer can do the rest.

Any other forms of funding or reduced cost activities will be gratefully received for the coming year.

As always, we are an open group, and the full accounts are available for anyone that wishes to look at them, just contact the treasurer to arrange a convenient time.

Financial Report

Account Summary for Central Ribbleton Scout Group
From the 1st March 2023 to 29th February 2024

<u>Income</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
Beaver Scouts Subs	£2,142.50
Cub Scouts Subs	£2,190.50
Scouts Subs	£1,562.50
Total Subs	£5,895.50
Investitures	£119.00
Events	£3,277.64
Donations	£561.39
Bank Interest	£50.10
Total:	£9,908.63

<u>Expenditure</u>	
Membership Capitation Fee 2023/24	£1,840.00
Resources	£1,942.59
Equipment	£ 403.32
Clothing	£ 85.00
Events	£ 3,081.30
Badges	£ 679.22
EDF - Gas	£ 408.16
Bulb/Octopus - Electric	£ 394.63
Water	£ 375.87
Total:	£9,210.09

Opening Bank Balance	£7,723.46
Cash Float	£18.67
Total:	£7,742.13

Total Income:	£9,908.63
Total Expense:	(£9,210.09)

Closing Bank Balance	£8,289.10
Cash Float:	£151.57
Total:	£8,440.67
Operating Profit	£698.54

Group Lead Volunteers Report

I became GSL now GLV in October 2022 and the Annual Report is time to take stock and reflect on our achievements and the challenges ahead. I am pleased to say Scouting in Ribbleson continues to flourish and the team members remain committed to delivering the scouting experience to young people in our charge. We are hoping to give our young people life skills and for them to make friendships that they form for life. Scouting gives young people a multitude of skills, an ability for teamwork and resilience which in later life apart from fond memories may help provide the character substance to deal with whatever life brings. Their experiences should be positive and must involve FUN.

We have also continued to support other groups throughout the district by being able to provide a location for leader training/development.

As we move into 2024/2025 we will be looking to recruit more section leaders (or as they will be known moving forward team members) and will be looking at a role for our young people to have representation on the trustee board in volunteer meetings. Looking at our future plans and the support we need to make these plans a reality we are looking for other group support roles and team members. In particular we are looking for volunteers to strengthen our existing team but also so that we can look to open a Squirrels section in the future.

I'd like to thank our young people for all of their hard work and dedication, we are all so very proud of you and all of your achievements. Thank you parents, carers, grandparents and even siblings for your support too! We'd also like to thank the other community organisations and groups that host us for visits, share information to support and in particular The Blessed Sacrament RC Church, St Mary Magdalene Church, Local County Councillor Anna Hindle, McDonald's Deepdale, Go Outdoors, Tesco, surrounding schools. Thank you for your continued support.

We continue to support our local community at their events as well as attending church parades.

There are full programmes prepared for this coming year covering group meetings, joint meetings, camps, outings and competitions. These can only continue with more team members, so please think of volunteering.

To achieve as much as we do, we work as part of the community in partnership. The invaluable and important support that family and friends provide enables us to carry on positively, knowing that each and every member of the group is held in high regard, promoting self-esteem and respect.

I'd like to thank Preston District for their continued support.

I'd like you all to join me in thanking the Beaver, Cub and Scout leadership teams for all their continued hard work and dedication, also thank you to the maintenance volunteers and exec (now trustee board) for all their dedication, hard work and support.

Lesley-Ann Stickley
Group Lead Volunteer

Central Ribbleton Beaver Colony

Annual Report – April 2024



It's been another busy year for the Beaver section at Central Ribbleton, we have seen 7 Beaver Scouts awarded their Chief Scout Bronze Award. As this is the first report since Covid I will celebrate those Beavers who also earned the award, 1 in 2021 and 5 in 2022. Lots of new challenges faced by the young people and they tackled them with great gusto and learnt new skills at the same time. They have made new friends along the way and gained new experiences.

In between all this award winning and achievements we've managed to squeeze in some events too. Enjoying the District Beaver Christingle service and Lego competition, spending time at Waddecarr, sleepovers and joining 6th Fulwood for a joint Coronation party. Ladies in Pigs visiting our colony evening to learn all about British pork and making our own pizza.

Day out to Hangar 42 Blackpool and the RNLI at St Annes. We learnt about airplanes from world war II, phonetic alphabet, make a paper aeroplane and eat lunch in the officers control room and then we went to see the lifeboat Barbara Ann and learnt all about the volunteers and the boats.

Visiting Pets at Home at Capitol Centre to see the animals, hold and feed and learn about them and their habitat.

This year we decided to take part in a Christmas kindness project with the local care home. We made Christmas cards, baubles for the tree, mini Christmas trees for all the residents and sang Christmas Carols. This year we have definitely been doing our best and being kind and helpful!

We did a festive scavenger Chippy Hike to explore our community and have a chippy tea.

We have just been out into the community to Ribbleton Library to see what they provide and to learn all about books, Fantastic experience where we completed a book themed hunt and many Beavers signed up to become members and earned their Book Reader Activity badge.

We are now looking forward to May the fourth for our District Beaver Scout sleepover and what we are sure will be a busy Spring/Summer programme.

Our young leaders Harini and Anna are working towards their young leader missions and supporting the Beavers every week. Thank you Beavers for all the fun and friendship, here's to even more fun and frolics in 2024/2025.

Thank you to Matthew, Andrew, Ann-Marie and Kevin and also to the Cub team who have supported this year with helping at some Beaver meetings.

Lesley-

Ann Stickley - Ahmeek Beaver Scout Team Leader

Central Ribbleton Cub Pack

Annual Report – April 2024

Since September 2023, I have been working towards the Cub Leader Role. Throughout this process, I have received support from the team. I will be assuming the role previously held by Julia (Akela), and I am grateful for her full support and cooperation during this transition. To prepare for my responsibilities in this position, I have completed several courses with the Scout Association, and engaged in self-learning suggested by Ahmeek and Akela.

Currently, we have twenty-two young people, among them, we have some Cub Scouts ready to move up to Scouts and continuing their scouting journey.

During this scouting year, we've witnessed six Beavers transitioning to Cubs. My personal goal is to assist and support the Beaver Section, as often as I can to build a connection and rapport with them to make the transition to Cubs more familiar. Additionally, I hope to collaborate with Lesley-Ann (Ahmeek) on joint activities whenever possible. Furthermore, we welcomed three new Cubs from the local community through word of mouth.

In summary, huge congratulations to the Cub Scout who achieved their The Chief Scout Silver Award, and there is potential for five more to do so by the end of summer, as they are on the cusp of completing the award. Looking ahead, another five young people are currently on track to achieve their Silver Award within the next twelve months. Finally, we have two young individuals who have earned their You Shaped Awards.

Since September 2023, the young people have collectively earned over one hundred and eighty badges. I believe this achievement reflects the collaborative efforts of our team in providing a diverse programme.

From September 2023 to the present, our young people have actively participated in a variety of activities. These range from essential life skills like emergency first aid to thrilling adventures such as canoeing, crate stacking, and the leap of faith particularly for those who recently attended the joint Cub pack camp.

In addition, our young members have gained insights into various cultures. They've visited the Hindu temple, participated in international pack nights, and enjoyed a Polish evening hosted by one of our own Cubs. Understanding the significance of Remembrance Sunday has also been part of their learning journey. Furthermore, our youth had the unique opportunity to meet with a counsellor and a former mayor of Preston. These interactions helped them grasp how politics directly impact our lives. Also, not forgetting their culinary endeavours of baked Christmas cakes and they explored Indian cooking. Lastly, their creativity has shone through as they crafted key racks from scratch and assembled Airfix model planes.

Since September of last year, our young people have actively participated in eleven additional activities. These diverse activities include religious ceremonies, parades, camps, competitions, Alpaca walking, and creating their own legacies through tree planting with the Ribble Trust. Our goal is to sustain this positive momentum throughout the year.

In reflection, I believe the Cub Scouts have had a great year so far. This is evident in the consistent numbers, and it's a massive credit to the entire team that works tirelessly to create these opportunities for our communities.

Thank you,

Graeme Higginson – Hawkeye Cub Scout Team Leader

Central Ribbleton Scout Troop

Annual Report – April 2024

The following is my first annual report for the Scout Troop, since offering to take on the volunteer leadership role in late 2021. In the intervening period, the Scout Troop has had a steady membership of around 12 young people attend the weekly meetings as well as the five adult volunteers that form the leadership team.

The weekly meetings are the time for the scouts working in small teams to learn and develop various scouting and everyday skills, values and individual opinions as part of their progress to achieving the nine challenge awards. These can often take weeks or months to complete, but every scout has made good progress.

Scouts are encouraged to assist with the running of their troop meetings, using the troop forum meetings to suggest indoor and activity ideas or running a programme activity. In addition to the regular meeting place, the Scouts have had evenings away from the hut such as; at Waddecarr Scout Site on the rifle and archery ranges improving their safety knowledge and target skills; accepting invitations from other troops, our scouts were successful in the General Knowledge Quiz and Mental Challenges. The end of 2023 saw our scouts at Blackburn Ice Rink where we joined with the other Preston Scouts for 2 hours ice skating.

As well as the weekly meetings, the leadership team is pleased that many of our scouts also enjoy attending the various camping opportunities that are available.

The Preston District Spring Camp in 2022 was based on teamwork and Central Ribbleton Scouts excelled themselves all weekend with their general behaviour and team encouragement, even after camping overnight in minus 4°C temperatures. This was recognised and rewarded at the camp closing ceremony by the Camps District Leadership team.

Preston's Back-2-Basics Camp concentrated more on reviving the more traditional scout skills rather than providing adventurous activities. From carving and whittling a natural wood tapered 'pig' as a playing piece in a coordinated hand-eye sports event, to learning to gut and prepare fresh fish & chicken before cooking over a wood fire. Using the model pioneering techniques and lashing taught on a weekly troop night, this was upscaled to a full size pioneering support frame and swing. Cardboard ovens were built and used to cook mini pizza's and muffins. In the dark wide games and being entertained round a large campfire rounded off the day activities.

Our attendance at the West Lancashire Scouts County Rally, allows Scouts the freedom to choose for themselves which of the 30plus adventurous activities and bases they want to have a go at during the weekend, within the safe confines of the Waddecarr Scout Activity Centre, along with 700 other scouts from the Lancashire County.

The Harris Cup is seen as the pinnacle of the camping season, as teams of 6 selected scouts from Preston Scout Troops compete against each other in a weekend assessment of their camping ability. Central Ribbleton Scouts have attended twice, planning their own weekend programme and catering, having to be totally self-sufficient on the camping with the minimal input from the adult leaders. Certain individuals excelled with management of the kitchen whilst others maintained the campsite or took the lead with the given challenges.

Summer 2024 will see some Central Ribbleton Scouts attend the week-long Red Rose 24, an international camp being held in the Lake District for scouts and guides from the UK and across the world.

To close this report, the Troop volunteer leaders in the short period of time with Central Ribbleton Scout Group, would like to thank the Scouts for their regular attendance and for their enthusiasm to get involved, to their parents who provide the often-unseen support, especially when we have to ask for assistance with transportation. I personally would also like to thank the four other adult volunteers, Veronica, Taran, Michael & Christopher who freely give up the time every week and their weekends to support the Scouts in this Scout Group.

Mark Woodhouse - Scout Troop Team Leader