



Scouts
14th Wyre Forest
(Rhydd Covert)

Annual General Meeting

14th Wyre Forest (Rhydd Covert) Scout Group

Wednesday 18th September 2024 at 6.45pm

Held at the Scout Hut, Rhydd Covert.



Scouts

14th Wyre Forest (Rhydd Covert)

14th Wyre Forest Scout Group

Group Information

1. **Address of Headquarters:** Rhydd Covert,
2. **Scout Association Registration Number:**
3. **Executive Committee Members:**
 - Chair: Matt Jennings
 - Group Section Leader: Rachel Setchell
 - Treasurer: Kevin Quinn
 - Secretary: Nicky Small
4. **Trustees**
 - Rachel Setchell
 - Matt Jennings
 - Kevin Quinn
 - Nicky Small
 - Lucy Greenwood
 - Sam Walker
5. **Section Information**
 - **Scouts.** Aged 10½ to 14. Meet Wednesday evening 6.30-8.00pm
Led by Sam Walker
 - **Cubs.** Aged 8 to 10½. Meet Wednesday evening 6.30-8.00pm
Led by Rachel Setchell
 - **Beavers.** Aged 6 to 8. Meet Wednesday evening 6.30-
Led by Jenna Rogers
 - **Squirrels.** Aged 4 & 5. Meet Wednesday evening 5.00-6.00pm
Led by Christina Quinn



Scouts
14th Wyre Forest
(Rhydd Covert)

Index of Pages

1	Front Cover
2	Group Information
3	Index of pages
4	Agenda Pg 1
5	Chair's Report
6	Accounts Pg 1
7	Accounts Pg 2
8	Accounts Pg 3
9	Scrutineer's Report
10	Group Section Leaders Report
11	Section Reports – Scouts Pg 1
12	Sections Reports – Scouts Pg 2
13	Section Reports – Cubs
14	Section Reports – Beavers
15	Section Reports – Squirrels



Scouts
14th Wyre Forest
(Rhydd Covert)

14th Wyre Forest Scout Group

Annual General Meeting Wednesday 18th September 2024 at 6.45pm – at the Scout Hut, Rhydd Covert

Agenda of meeting

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Apologies
3. Acceptance of the Minutes from 2023 AGM
4. Group Trustee Board Reports – all available online at our website in the Notice Board
 - Chair
 - Treasurer
 - GSL
5. Section Reports - all available online on our website
 - Scouts, Cubs, Beavers & Squirrels
6. Election of Group Trustee Board Officers – No other nominations received, after communications with parents and incumbent officers have shown a willingness to continue in role
 - Chair Matt Jennings
 - Treasurer Kevin Quinn
 - Nicky Small
 - Rachel Setchell
 - Lucy Greenwood
 - Sam Walker
7. Appointment of Independent Examiners – Sarah Bennett
8. District Commissioner Report – Julie Goodyear
9. End of AGM



Scouts
14th Wyre Forest
(Rhydd Covert)

Report from the Chair

Please read our Annual Section Reports from Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts found on our website home page: [www. http://14wyreforest.scoutsites.org.uk/](http://14wyreforest.scoutsites.org.uk/). I hope you agree, the activities, adventures, camps, ceremonies, support work and achievements undertaken this last year with our young people is truly impressive and they have had a great year.

I want to personally thank all the Leaders, helpers, the Executive and our GSL Rachel for giving their:

1. **Time** – it isn't just the Wednesday meeting, or the activities or the camps that our leaders give to this group. It is the planning that goes into organising and making sure these activities are fun for the children.
2. **Commitment** – For those not lucky enough to have retired, all our team have jobs, families and still have the energy to keep making our group great! And to make the point again, I need to remind everyone that we are all volunteers, we do this because we want to!

Transformation

National Scouts are going through a major Transformation. We always need to change and adapt to the modern world and stay relevant, we also need to ensure we have structures and training that is robust and attracts new volunteers, making sure our volunteering is more enjoyable for everyone.

Next financial year we continue our transformation work as we develop our Section Teams, Group Leadership Team as well as developing our Trustee Board.

Essentially, we want to recruit people for just the tasks that work for them and what we need whilst recognising existing skills within our current sections. So we want to make our volunteering flexible, accessible and fun - don't just watch this space - come on board and be a part of our amazing team.

Matt Jennings - Chairperson



Scouts
14th Wyre Forest
(Rhydd Covert)

14th Wyre Forest (Rhydd Covert) Scout Group
Receipts and payments account

	Year start date		Year end date
For the year from	01/04/2023	To	31/03/2024

Receipts and payments

	2023/24 Unrestricted funds £	2022/23 Unrestricted funds £
Receipts		
Donations, legacies and similar income		
Membership subscriptions	12,420	11,617
Donations	-	-
Legacies	-	-
Loan	4,000	-
Gift Aid	-	-
Camp receipts	4,174	3,578
Extra Activities	1,040	
Uniform/Investing	831	
Sub total	22,465	15,195
Grants		
Maintenence grant	-	-
Other grants	1,750	1,000
Sub total	1,750	1,000
Fundraising events (gross)		
Christmas Post	142	117
Wyre Forest Lottery	180	189
Easy Fundraising	15	28
Pledged Plod	2,663	1,580
Wreath Making	255	-
Sub total	3,255	1,914
Scout hut income		
Hire of building	-	-
Hire of equipment	-	-
Other Scout hut income	-	-
Sub total	-	-
Investment income		
Bank interest	-	-
Building Society interest	-	-
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service	-	-
Other investment income	-	-
Sub total	-	-
Total Gross Income	27,470	18,109
Asset and investment sales, etc.	-	-
Total receipts	27,470	18,109



Scouts
14th Wyre Forest
(Rhydd Covert)

14th Wyre Forest (Rhydd Covert) Scout Group
Receipts and payments account

	Year start date	To	Year end date
For the year from	01/04/2023		31/03/2024

Receipts and payments

	2023/24 Unrestricted funds £	2022/23 Unrestricted funds £
Payments		
Charitable Payments		
Membership subscriptions (Capitation)	5,202	4,398
Meeting Expenses	3,600	5,266
Camps	3,803	
Extra Activities	1,040	
Group contribution to events/activities	619	
Adult support and training	24	-
Rent	1,390	1,934
Water and Sewerage	-	-
Electricity and Gas	-	-
Insurance	254	189
Repairs and Renewals	-	-
Uniforms Badges etc	2,045	1,546
Fundraising costs	689	
Cash float to sections	-	1,075
Group equipment and Storage	5,765	2,121
Loan repayment	500	1,000
OSM fees	636	43
District Levy	565	936
	26,132	18,508
<i>Total Gross Expenditure</i>	26,132	18,508
Asset and investment purchases, etc.		-
<i>Total payments</i>	26,132	18,508
<i>Net of receipts/(payments)</i>	1,338	399
Cash funds last year end	2,053	2,452
<i>Cash funds this year end</i>	3,391	2,053



Scouts
14th Wyre Forest
(Rhydd Covert)

Wyre Forest (Rhydd Covert) Scout Group
Receipts and payments account

Year start date

Year end date

For the year from	01/04/2023	To	31/03/2024
-------------------	------------	----	------------

Statement of assets and liabilities as at

	2024 Unrestricted funds £	2023 Unrestricted funds £
Cash funds		
Bank current account	3,191	1,853
Bank deposit account		
Building society account		-
Cash/Floats		-
Total cash funds	200	200
	3,391	2,053
<small>(agree balances with receipts and payments account)</small>		
Other monetary assets		
Tax claim	-	-
Debts due from the County/Area/District/Group	-	-
Insurance claim	-	-
Sub total	-	-
Investment assets		
Investment property - detail	-	-
Quoted investments	-	-
Other investments - detail	-	-
Sub total	-	-
Non monetary assets for charity's own use		
Badge stock	-	-
Shop stock	-	-
Other stock	-	-
Land and buildings	-	-
Motor vehicles	-	-
Scouting equipment, furniture etc	8,000	5,000
Storage container (s)	12,000	6,000
Sub total	20,000	11,000
Liabilities		
Accounts not yet paid	-	-
Expenses incurred but not invoiced	-	-
Subscriptions not yet paid	-	-
Loan - Wyre Forest District Scouts £4000 outstanding	4,000	-
Other liabilities	-	-
Sub total	4,000	-
Total net assets	19,391	13,053

The above receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on (the date of the Trustee Board meeting that approved the accounts) and signed on their behalf by

Signature

Print Name

Matt Jennings - Chair

Kevin Quinn - Treasurer

Matt Jennings - Chair

Kevin Quinn - Treasurer



Scouts
14th Wyre Forest
(Rhydd Covert)

**Scrutineer's Report to the Trustees of the
14th Wyre Forest (Rhydd) Scout Group**

I report on the accounts of the Group/District for the year ended31st March 2024.....

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Scrutineer

As the Group's/District's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that neither the audit nor independent examination requirements of the Charities Act 2011 apply. It is my responsibility without carrying out an audit or independent examination to scrutinise the accounts and to report to you.

Basis of Scrutineer's Statement

In accordance with the directions given in the Group's/District's constitution, I have scrutinised the records and the accounts set out on pages1..... to3.....

Scrutineer's Statement

In my opinion the accounts are in accordance with the records produced to me and comply with the constitution.

Name:Sarah Bennett.....

Address:290 Chester Road North.....

.....Kidderminster.....

.....DY10 2RR.....

.....

Date:4th July 2024.....



Scouts
14th Wyre Forest
(Rhydd Covert)

Group Scout Leaders Report

Well, another very busy year over, if you have read the section reports you will know how hard our leaders team have been working to ensure great value Scouting is available for all from 4 – 14. At present we have over 100 children from 4-14 joining us each week for their dose of Scouting. Added to that we have over 20 leaders and helpers, who give up their time for this to happen.

Leader wise we have said goodbye to Alisha and Steve from Scouts but have welcomed Phil and we have Richard and Katie helping in September – Katie is our first Cub who has gone through to Scouts, and then became a young leader before her 18th birthday this month and so returning as a leader now.

Cub leader wise we have welcomed Steve this year and Emma has stepped back to look after her baby which was born at Christmas.

In Beavers our leader Jenna left but her role has been very successfully filled by Lucy and they have welcomed Bella and Marie to their leader team.

In Squirrels our leader has left for health reasons for the time being and her team have also stepped down due to their children moving sections.

I'm really pleased though to introduce Laura who is our new squirrel leader, myself and Emily (cub leader) will be supporting her whilst we try and recruit for that section.

This year we have brought a second container to allow us to store more equipment in a better way for each section. Some of the funding for this has been done by our brilliant fundraiser Ele, who completes local funding bids to help us raise funds to pay for things such as this. If anyone would like to help us by helping Ele we would really appreciate it – it's not every month and it's definitely not every week.

This next year we are hoping for all the sections to get more involved with District events where they have the chance to meet young people from other groups. Starting by the Cubs Badge Day in October.

Camp wise I'm very pleased to say that Lucy has completed and passed her permit to take the beavers camping so hopefully they will start to do that this autumn term.

It's great to see Cubs and Scouts enjoying a variety of camps throughout the year.

This next year there are some changes happening within Scouting including leaders roles, training etc, but don't worry nothing will change for the children and young people.

One thing I need to remind you is that via your Parent portal on OSM you can see the programme and the relevant RA for each session.

Now usually at the end of any message from us we ask for volunteers to help out at our section meetings and whilst we still need help at squirrels what would actually benefit us more is finding adults who can run just one session for us, we're looking for nurses, doctors, firemen, police, sports trainers, cyclists, mechanics, DIYers, woodworkers, etc. who can help us run the relevant badge for the relevant sections. As such at the AGM we will have a form which we are asking everyone to complete just so we know what your jobs, hobbies are plus those of your friends and family who we could contact



Scouts
14th Wyre Forest
(Rhydd Covert)

Section Reports

Scouts

Well, what another busy year we have had with the scout section.

We held our first expedition with some of the older scouts as part of their Gold award. They all did brilliantly. They had to walk and camp overnight and continue the walk the next day. They had to be self-sufficient with tents and cooking. Becky and I were there to remotely supervise them along the route and during the evening. Thank you, Becky, for all the training you have did with them.

Scouts learnt some first aid and applied this to different scenarios to get their badge.

We worked on our navigation and completed a night hike at Hawkbatch in Bewdley where they all took turns to navigate part of the route.

Scouts did some junk modelling on the theme of animals or landmarks towards their creative badge and there were some great outcomes.

We have done lots of fires and cooking a variety of things from crumpets, toast and egg sandwiches.

We had a sleepover at WF10 hut and went Bell boating which was first for many of us.

December, we did some Christmas crafts, and we awarded our first ever 5 Gold awards to Dan, Jude, Spencer, Olly and George. It had been so nice to see them grow in character, confidence and learning new skills along the way. They did us proud.

The new year started with Steve running a fire photography night in which the scouts had the chance to swing a ball of fire. We used slow speed photography to capture some amazing pictures.

We celebrated Burns night with a campfire and haggis and other Scottish food and games. We said Goodbye to Tayla who was leaving to have her baby.

Steve ran a pioneering night for us and the scouts made some great A frames, they had to learn lashings and knots, they then had chariot races.

We had a night vision evening where no torches were allowed and did the disappearing head trick which was fun and trying to identify colours in the dark.

We went litter picking on a very wet evening over Burlish top and found a can dated 1975 which was amazing, and it showed us just how long things take to breakdown.

We have had another successful cub and scout night where scouts taught the cubs some new skills and problem solving/teamwork.

The scouts took part in a 'take your egg over the assault course' and the reward was that they could break the egg over my head at the end of the night if they were successful. So many eggs survived (unfortunately for me) and true to my word I let them break them on my head which became very painful at the end.

We held our first Patrol and assistant patrol leader camp which was a great success and will become a regular event. Scouts have taken part in St Georges and Remembrance parades and have always looked so smart and respectful. Well done.



Scouts
14th Wyre Forest
(Rhydd Covert)

We finished the year off with tubing at Wolverley school which was enjoyed by scouts and leaders. We also said Goodbye to Alisha who has been a great asset and great fun over the last couple of years.

I want to say a big THANK YOU to the scout leader team as scouts wouldn't be able to run without your help and dedication. So, Thank you Becky, Alisha, Tayla, Phil, Katie and Spencer.

And lastly a big THANK YOU to all the scouts and parents who have supported us over the last year. It's so nice to see the scouts grow in confidence and learn new skills along the way.

Sam Walker
Scout Leader



Scouts
14th Wyre Forest
(Rhydd Covert)

Cubs

Skills, make new friends and grow in confidence.

Meeting where we do allows us to spend the majority of our time outside exploring in all weathers as well as in the dark winter nights

We have awarded 354 badges and challenge awards and 14 Silver challenge awards – the highest award that Cubs can gain.

Camps included 'I'm a celebrity camp, Winter Toughnut camp, the wild west tented village camp, and more recently our Kinver camp.

14 Cubs are now enjoying Scouts.

The cubs have learnt many things from DIY to street dancing, from caving to orienteering. We have flown on a plane.

We learnt about recycling and global issues. We did litter picking and treasure trails. We slept outside under the stars in the warm weather as well as froze on a very cold wet weekend.

Recently our section has expanded to take some younger beavers due to a bottle neck in the younger sections. They have fitted in so well we have invested them early to be able to do the cub activities.

None of this would have been possible without the support from our Cub leader Team, Charlotte, Emily, Lewis, Sean and Steve plus the support from our parents when needed. Our leader Emma left to have little baby Noah at Christmas

Before the AGM in September we will have completed yet another camp – this time at Top Barn where the cubs will be doing canoeing, raft building and SUP.

Thanks to my leaders, for giving up their spare time to allow all the children to have a great time and thanks to parents for allowing their children to attend

Rachel Setchell

Cub Leader



Scouts
14th Wyre Forest
(Rhydd Covert)

Beavers

We started the year with a wonderful camp, with some beavers staying away from home for the first time last September. I Would like to thank Jenna for leading the beavers from the beginning of WF14. I arrived three years ago when my Son joined Beavers and Jenna's shoes will be hard to fill. I would like to thank her for giving the children a wonderful experience and showing me what scouting is about.

Beavers have enjoyed activities such as soft archery, water filter making, cooking, water slide, Habberley Valley nature reserve trip, bug hunting, den making, flying kites in the sun and more, being outside and getting muddy, just like beavers should!

All this fun could not be achieved without the beaver team Danny, Bob, Bella and Marie. Thank you all so much for your time and support. Thank you to Rachel for her guidance and experience, and always offering help and advice. Thank you to all the parents and children that turn up every week with a smile on their face. I look forward to the next year with lots of adventures, badges and achievements.

Lucy Greenwood

WF14 Beavers



Scouts
14th Wyre Forest
(Rhydd Covert)

Squirrels

Time flies when you're having fun! My second year as Drey Leader for our Squirrel section and we have achieved some major milestones! A total of 12 chief scout acorn badges were awarded, the highest achievement for Squirrels, for achieving all their challenge badges. We also saw the last of our original cohorts, who had been with us since the Drey opened in 2021, move up to our Beaver section. A bittersweet but very proud moment!

Our section leaders team has seen lots of changes too, Lucy B and Esher moving on with their children, Bella and Marie moving up to help our Beaver team in January. We welcomed Karly, Em, Sam and Kinga, all starting as parent helpers, who enjoyed the craziness and embraced the chaos to commit as full time assistants over the last 12 months. I am incredibly grateful to them all for their enthusiasm and commitment to our drey without which we would not have been able to stay open and offer more spaces to young people.

Of course the children are at the heart of what we do, we have had so much fun, watching them grow, increase in confidence, forge new friendships and exploring their imaginations.

A few highlights from the year include creating our Coronation themed duck house for the Bewdley Festival, which now takes pride of place in our Squirrels garden, a science themed Halloween party with potion making and melting ice zombie hands, learning survival skills and flameless cooking with Ration Pack food, a Christmas Party at Kidz Barn attended by Santa, our Pirate Training Academy, Space exploration and Alien 'easter' egg hunt, participating in our 3rd St Georges Day parade and taking full advantage of our wonderful setting in Rhydd Covert to explore nature, wildlife and develop our own garden area. This summer we also welcomed a new drey mascot, Sammy Squirrel! Each week he chooses a child to go home with and reports back on his exciting adventures.

We are very lucky to be part of a scout group with solid leadership driving our expansion and ensuring we have the financial support not only from subs but community grants to fund our activities and resources. As a Squirrel section we also benefit from additional Bewdley Rotary Club funding. Some of the larger purchases made this year include, 4 large tuff trays for messy and imaginative play and gardening tools and a vegetable planter for our garden. We have also been able to subsidise the cost of our Christmas party and invited Fizz Pop Science to run a crazy chemistry session! We have a wealth of resources to fuel imaginative play that will be used for years to come. Although the storage of these has caused our GSL Rachel a few grey hairs, the group has now been able to access a district loan to purchase a second storage container for group equipment. This growth is a testament to the success of 14th Wyre Forest and the programme it can offer each section of scouting from children age 4 to 14!

Unfortunately, due to health reasons and I hope only temporarily, while I await an operation and fully recover, I have had to make the decision to step down as Drey leader this term. So I pass the baton to Laura, one of our parents, who has stepped into the breach meaning the Drey can stay open and we are incredibly grateful to her. Thank you to all our parents, past and present for your support, please spread the word about our drey and if you are in a position to volunteer and help even for a short amount of time I can assure you won't regret it, making lots memories and lifelong friendships.

Christina Quinn

Squirrels Section Leader