

Chairman's Report

It's that time again to reflect on the past year of Scouting at 1st Rustington and the achievements of the Group.

Fundraising is an integral part of the 'behind the scenes' work and support for the Trustee Board. This year we held two very successful Street Collections which raised over £2000 for group funds. November saw another well supported Comedy Night at The Woodlands Centre, which again brought in vital funds. A big thank you to Martin Richardson and the GSL team for, once again, organising and running this event.

St Georges Day Parade in Arundel saw, as always, an amazing turnout from all sections of the Group, which was repeated in November for Rustington's Remembrance Sunday Parade. I have the privilege of being part of this event and I am always so proud to see all the sections on parade in our local community.

1st Rustington has always been about being part of the community and following on from the success of the previous year we once again joined with the Parish Church of St Peter & St Paul for our Carol Service. Natalie, Laura and Gill always make us so welcome and it's a lovely way to all come together to start the build up to Christmas. Once again my thanks to Gill for working with the sections to produce an amazing piece of artwork that was displayed in the Church.

As part of the Carol Service we decided that, rather than having a traditional collection, we would encourage everyone attending to bring along a donation to 'The Pantry', our local food bank supported and run by the Church community. The response was incredible and we ended up with five full crates of donations; a very proactive way of 'thinking of others before ourselves'.

Scouting is about being part of a 'family' and everyone in the Group has a part to play in this. Nikki Cooke, has, for the past few years been administering our successful 100 Club, however she has now decided to step down from this role and I would like to take this opportunity to say a massive thank you to her for everything she has done. Jon Harris has kindly agreed to 'pick up the baton' and I am very grateful.

I started by reflecting on the success of the past year and I would like to end by looking forward. We, as a Trustee Board will continue to learn and adapt. I am just one of a dedicated team of Trustees and as always my thanks goes to Caroline, Sally, Mary, Sandy & Nicky for their continued dedication, hardwork and support.

To the GSL team, leaders and volunteers I want to say thank you for your continued commitment to providing the best of Scouting at 1st Rustington. Here's to the next twelve months...

Sarah Greig
Chairman - 1st Rustington Board of Trustees