



# 1<sup>st</sup> Douglas Scout Group

## Annual Report

2006

Est. 1909

[www.1stdouglas.org.im](http://www.1stdouglas.org.im)

## Chairman's Report

The past year has been one of exciting progress for the Group.

The modernisation project "1<sup>st</sup> Douglas Plan For The Future" which comprises of a new floor in the main hall, cladding of the walls, a suspended insulated ceiling and an extension to the rear of the building. Subject to the final approval of the financial arrangements, we hope to start work early this summer.

I pay tribute to the Committee Members, Trustees, and the many friends of the 1<sup>st</sup> Douglas for their advice and counsel regarding the "Plan For The Future".

We still need help with Fund Raising. During the coming months many events will be held and I would ask for the support of parents, former scouts and friends of the 1<sup>st</sup> Douglas.

Next year the Scout Movement will celebrate its centenary and in 2009 the 1<sup>st</sup> Douglas will celebrate our own centenary, being the oldest continuous scout group in the Isle of Man. We will be marking this wonderful event with many festivities and ideas and suggestions will be very welcome.

In conjunction with the Isle of Man Scout Association I feel that scouting should be placed in a more prominent position on the central Government Youth programme. The promotion of scouting in the Isle of Man can offer the youth of the Island so many benefits, companionship and happy memories that will be remembered for many years.

On behalf of the Group Committee, I thank the parents for their continued interest, the Trustees for their help and the Leaders for their enthusiasm.

**Stan Deighan**  
**Chairman, 1<sup>st</sup> Douglas Executive Group Committee**

## Treasurer's Report

### Income and Expenditure for the year to 31 December 2005

<b>Receipts</b>		<b>Expenditure</b>	
Opening Balance at Bank	£ 7,201.04	Affiliation to Scouts	£ 2,307.90
Affiliation Receipts	£ 1,978.21	Donations	£ 35.00
Board of Education	£ 13,387.50	Capital Exp -Extension	£ 2,994.50
Donations received	£ 710.00	Sign Prizes	£ 25.00
Donation - Hall Use	£ 1,345.00	Cleaning	£ 739.78
Interest received	£ 88.94	Fuel	£ 10.00
Fundraising	£ 82.00	Contra	£ 30.00
Scout Camp	£ 21.81	Heat & Light	£ 1,980.73
Contra	£ 30.00	Insurance	£ 2,368.54
	<u>£ 24,844.50</u>	Maintenance - Bunk House	£ 200.00
		Maintenance -Scout Hall	£ 105.55
		Old Friends 1st Douglas	£ 76.38
		Printing	£ 48.00
		Rates	£ 104.93
		Telephone	£ 120.83
		Closing Balance at Bank	£ 13,697.36
			<u>£ 24,844.50</u>

**Sarah Downing-Green**  
**Honorary Treasurer, 1<sup>st</sup> Douglas Executive Group Committee**

## **Group Scout Leaders Report**

Twelve months on from the last report and as you will see from reading the various Section reports Scouting is still going strong and the Group has seen girls joining both 1<sup>st</sup> Douglas Scout Troop and Tynwald Cub Pack for the first time.

Cub Scouts will be celebrating its 90<sup>th</sup> birthday this year while next year will see 100 years of Scouting. Various parties, camps, activities and celebrations throughout the year will mark both events and I hope everyone will take the opportunity to join in.

Subject to funding 1<sup>st</sup> Douglas Executive Committee are looking to continue refurbishing the scout hall with the addition of disabled facilities, new flooring and an extension. Also within the planned works, due to the ever increasing cost of heating measures are also being taken in an effort to decrease the cost of fuel bills. The expected work is going to cost a considerable amount and although the Committee have already received donations towards the proposed work if anyone has any fund raising ideas please contact any of the Leaders or Executive Committee. I know that any help will be gratefully appreciated.

Finally as always I would like to thank everyone who has helped over the past year in keeping 1<sup>st</sup> Douglas, the oldest continuous group on the Island, going and hope that you can continue to help in the future.

**Gordon Gledhill**  
**Group Scout Leader**

## **Beavers Report**

At present we have 20 Beavers in the Colony. The waiting list at present has been reduced due to a new Colony being started April/May 2006 by Alison; this is going to be held on Thursday evenings. We still have a large waiting list but many on the waiting list are not yet 6 years old.

During the last 12 months the Beavers have taken part in many activities, with all of the Beavers gaining at least 6 badges.

We have had visits to the beach, tram rides, competitions, and craft and games nights.

We have taken part in St Georges Day Parade and all Island activities which have included five a-side football, bowling, sports and a steam train ride with a picnic and games.

**Kath Bentham**  
**Beaver Leader**

## **Cushag Cub Pack Report**

We have been a bit more organised this year even though we are still a couple of leaders down for various reasons but we have again had a busy year with our numbers averaging about 24. I am, as usual, indebted to Bagheera (Jacky), Haithi (Martin) and Shere Khan (Greg) for all their help in keeping the programme on track. I must also thank an enthusiastic rota of Cub parents who have helped out when needed and, in recent months Baloo (Guy) who is helping from the Douglas Explorers (for a leadership badge) has been a helpful addition to the team.

Cushag pack was, as usual, represented at all the Island Cub events which included the 1<sup>st</sup> Aid Competition at Ramsey, the 5-a-side football at St Johns, the Scout Super Splash at Peel, the Cub

Marathon at Ballasalla, the Cub Sports, the Cub Island Camp and the Cub Cooking Competition. All the boys involved enjoyed representing the Pack and tried really hard.

The Island Camp was again held at the Crossags Campsite in Ramsey and the Cubs were able to have a go at lots of different activities including Canoeing at the Mooragh Park.

Cushag Pack was also represented at the all-Island Scouting events including the TT and MGP scoreboards and the St Georges Day Parade at the Mooragh Park, Ramsey.

In September 2005 the Pack had a short weekend camp at Ard Whallin Outdoor Pursuits Centre, where the boys had a great time doing activities in and around the centre (including having a go on the Assault and Low Ropes Courses) and in the surrounding forests and hills.

On Pack nights we have continued to do badge work and communicator and cooks badges were awarded to most Cubs who learned about various ways of communicating and had a go at preparing various courses for meals.

We are in the process of working out who has finished their Global Challenge Badge for which we have been doing work about other countries and have had three visitors from South Africa, Egypt and India to tell us about their countries. We also had a visit from Sam who told us about his trip to the last World Jamboree in Thailand.

We have also started work on the Caring Challenge and have so far visited the Fire Station and have held a fund raising fun night.

Thanks again to everyone who has supported the Pack over the last year including leaders, parents and Cubs and I hope we can all look forward to another successful year for 2006/07.

**Chil**  
(Colin Brew)

## **Tynwald Cub Pack Report**

Our Summer term last year was a very busy one. We took part in the St George's day parade travelling by bus to Ramsey. A team of four Cubs entered the Cooking competition using their own ideas for a three course meal. They didn't win but their meal was so delicious I tasted it both times (at the practice and the competition). We also entered teams in the Cub Sports and the Cub Football competition. The older Cubs took part in the Island Camp at Ramsey where they canoed, built shelters, cooked pancakes and took part in a campfire.

We also visited Douglas Police Station as part of a Local Knowledge Badge and a Police Badge that the older Cubs were doing as part of their Chief Scout's Challenge. During the evening we saw the police dogs in action, were shown a police emergency vehicle and the room where the emergency calls are taken. The Cubs had their fingerprints taken, but the highlight of the night was watching Gordon squeezing himself into riot gear. I would like to thank Mr Britton on behalf of Tynwald Pack for all his help.

Our own pack holiday took place at Port Erin, staying in Rushen Scout H.Q. We took part in treasure hunts, travelled by train to Castletown and visited the Castle and the Peggy Story to finish the Local Knowledge badge and took part in beach activities and played crazy golf. Thank you Leslie, Gilly, Laura, Robert and Paul for helping over the weekend. We finished the term with a ride on the Groudle Railway followed by a barbecue.

We started the Autumn term with a much reduced pack as twelve Cubs had reached Scout age and I'm pleased to say that many did join our Scout troop. We also gained a lot of new Cubs. The Cubs worked for Personal and Home Safety badges. We visited the Power Station and had a Firework

evening. As part of the Global Challenge badge we also visited Trinity Church where Mr Shirtliff gave the Cubs a very informative but fun talk on the work of the Church. May I take this opportunity to thank him. A brave team of Cubs took part in the Island Quiz. They were the only Cub team to take part but did a lot better than another person who couldn't even work the buzzer.

Over the Christmas holidays we asked people to save stamps for the Robert Owen House appeal as part of the Caring Challenge. We collected approximately 15,000 stamps from over 90 countries. A big thank you to all those who helped especially Kate who counted and sorted them all.

On the first night back after Christmas we held a 'I'm a Cub Scout get me out of Here' party. The Cubs entered into the spirit of the night with many coming in fancy dress - we even had a visit from Bobby Ball. During the evening the Cubs ate all sorts of 'grubs and nasty things' and dipped into buckets of goo and flour for 'eyeballs' etc. Some Cubs worked for a Road Safety badge and Laura came down to do a First Aid badge. Thank you Laura for giving up your time. We also visited the Mayor's Parlour and some Cubs were invested there and received a certificate from the Mayor.

During the term we were joined by our first female Cubs. We finished off the term with a treasure hunt for eggs.

I would like to congratulate the three Douglas Explorers who have been picked to go next year's Centenary Jamboree especially Jordan who was a Tynwald Cub. Well done boys!!

Finally I would like to thank Gordon, Neil, Kate and Owen for all their help and support and for putting up with me and congratulate Gordon who has proved that life really does begin at forty!!

**Anne Atkinson**  
**AIC Cub Scouts**

## **Scout Troop Report**

Over the last year there has been a drop in the number of Scouts on a Thursday night due to a number of them going up to Explorer Scouts.

During the past year I have had help from various Leaders such as Paul Ellison, Robert Thomson, Paul Cunningham, Craig Brown and Laura Skears. Thanks for stepping in when I've been unable to get down the Scouts. I would also like to extend my thanks to Adam Killip and Ben Lambden for all their help.

If you did not know it is not just 1<sup>st</sup> Douglas Scouts who turn up on a Thursday night I also have Scouts from 5<sup>th</sup> Douglas and 1<sup>st</sup> Willaston. However they still keep their own identity as they are invested under their own Troop scarves.

During the past year 1<sup>st</sup> Douglas Group made history by accepting Girls into the Scout Section. Kate and Natasha were the first girls to be invested into 1<sup>st</sup> Douglas since it was founded in 1909.

During 2005/6 Scouts have been entering different Scouting events such as Scout Super Splash, Island Orienteering Competition and the TT & MGP races.

Last year Scouts from the Island did not attend a Jamboree in the UK. However during the half term week last October I took ten Scouts away for four days to Matlock. Whilst there we visited the Tram Museum, Alton Towers and went swimming. I am planning in doing another trip to the UK this year.

As part of the centenary celebrations in 2007 1<sup>st</sup> Douglas Scout Group is planning a trip down to Prances Scout Campsite in Essex. While there we hope to attend the World Scout Jamboree being held at Hylands Park. So even if you are a Cub or a Scout you will have the opportunity to attend. More information will be sent out later on this year.

If you are due to come into Scouts and will be aged between 12 and 16 in 2008, you can attend Michigan International Camporee which has already been booked. If you think you can help us raise money for this event with either sponsorship or just helping with any fundraising ideas please let me know.

During the next year I hope that my Scouts will continue go to the following events, Backwoods cooking competition and the Orienteering competition though out the year.

This summer is going to be a quiet one, but for everybody who has helped me a big thank you.

**Neil Simpson**  
**Scout Leader**

**Over the past number of years 1<sup>st</sup> Douglas has under taken the following refurbishment of the Scout Hall**

1997	Toilets	Complete new boys toilets	
		Installation of two shower units	
1998/99	Car Park (Phase 1)	Removal of old buildings	
		Laying of hardcore surface	
		Installation of wooden boundary fence	
			Cost £ 5,000
2000	Replacement Roof	Installation of new roof	
			Cost £ 8,441
2003	Kitchen	New kitchen units	
		New floor covering	
	Replacement Windows (Phase 1)	Windows in toilets, kitchen and main hall (apart from rear of hall) replaced with new uPVC windows	
		With help from IOM Lottery Trust	Cost £ 4,369
	Car Park (Phase 2)	Installation of new drainage	
		Tarmac surface	
		Metal security fencing	
		With help from IOM Lottery Trust	Cost £ 15,000
2004	Replacement Windows (Phase 2)	Windows in Court of Honour room and stained glass windows replaced with new uPVC windows	
			Cost 4,369.03
	Stained Glass Window Protection	Due to vandalism installation of 6mm clear Polycarbonate covering over windows	
			Cost £ 550
	Fire Safety Measures	Installation of fire doors throughout the scout hall Fire sensors installed throughout the scout hall	
		Fire alarm directly link to Joint Emergency Control room	
		Integrated storage cupboards and fire break in main hall	
			Cost £ 12,546
2006	Subject to final approval of funding the following work will start this summer		
	Lifting of existing floor and installation of new non slip flooring		
	Cladding of the walls within the main hall for additional heat insulation		
	Installation of an insulated suspended ceiling		
	Building of an extension at the rear of the hall		
	Installation of a disabled ramp at the front of the hall		
	Alteration of toilet facilities to take into consideration disabled access		
	Enlargement of loft door within main corridor to give better loft access		
	Installation of oil central heating and upgrading of heating system and all pipe work		
	Estimated cost £ 120,000		