Scouts

3rd Royal Eltham Scout Group

Third Royal Eltham Scout Group

TRUSTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT

For the period
1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026

98 Sparrows Lane
New Eltham
London
SE9 2BT

Charity no. 2823362

Names of Charity Trustees* and helpers who manage the Charity

Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Dates acted (if not for whole year)
Bendy Ashfield	Chair	
Tim Lofts*	Deputy Chair	
Kathy Van de Rijt	Treasurer	
Maxine Biscoe	Group Secretary	March 2026
Andy Smith*	Group Scout Leader	
Dawn Burton*	Squirrel Scout Leader / Hall Hires	
Abi Burton	Squirrel Scout Leader	
Darren Goulston	Beaver Scout Leader	
Rachel Thorn	Beaver Scout Leader	
Louise Ring*	Cub Scout Leader	
Tiff Blaylock	Scout Leader	
Alex Jean-Paul	Leader	
Ruth Fancett*		
Kevin Trump*		
Charlotte Brown	Parent	September 2025
Chris Mangar	Parent	
	Parent	
	Parent	

CHAIR'S REPORT

As ever the last 12 months have been full of amazing experiences, activities and learning for our young people – much of which you will hear about shortly from the sections themselves.

A couple of moments stood out for me. Our annual fireworks night was as loud and fun as ever, though my candy floss making skills are no better! And for the first time in 2 years we hosted a Burns Night event in the hall – haggis, kilts, cranachan, whisky the lot!

This was used as a fundraising initiative to support two of our Explorers who have been lucky enough to be selected to attend the 26th World Scout Jamboree in Poland, next Summer. The joy of this type of event is when several, or all of our sections and their families get the opportunity to come together.

I was also lucky enough to attend the annual 49ers Christmas Dinner here at the hall. The 49ers is a group open to any current 3RE members who are over 18, and all previous members of the Thirds. The 49ers was formed in 1949 and has met very year since for a reunion dinner, which take place in late November. Meeting and chatting to some pretty old members of the Thirds was fascinating. As one of them said to me, even the oldest members still have the Thirds at heart!

I absolutely loved attending the Beaver's Christmas tea party – with fantastic food and decorations!

All this relies on solid foundations, and our finances remain in sound order and we have a full waiting list for all sections.

We are hoping to make some upgrades to the hall décor and infrastructure in the coming year – and will keep you posted on progress and some possible fundraising.

I would like to say thank you to the members of the Trustee Board who provide support in many different ways to the smooth running of 3RE. And a special mention to Amanda Jackosn-Downie who isn't here today, who earlier this year stepped down from the role of secretary – which she had undertaken brilliantly for several years – thank you Amanda! And also, thanks to you as parents and carers for all you do to support the group.

Finally, the biggest thanks must go to Andy and all our leaders who give their time so generously and unendingly to make all this possible for our members.

Bendy Ashfield

Chair
Third Royal Eltham Scout Group

Reference and Administration

The attached annual accounts for the Group show income above the level that requires external examination. The accounts have been prepared by the Group Treasurer and put before and agreed by the Executive Committee. The accounts are annexed to this report and a scrutinised copy will be lodged with the Charity Commissioner as required.

The land and buildings shown in the accounts are owned by the Group but held in trust for the Group by the Scout Association.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Group's governing documents are those of the Scout Association. They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and The Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.

The Group is a trust established under its rules which are common to all scouts.

The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.

The Group is managed by the Group Trustee Board, the members of which are the Charity Trustees of The Scout Group which is an educational charity. As charity trustees they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.

The Committee consists of three independent representatives: Chair, Treasurer and Secretary, together with the Group Lead Volunteer, individual section leaders and parent's representation and meets approximately every three months.

This Group Trustee Board exists to support the Group Lead Volunteer in meeting the responsibilities of the new appointments and is responsible for:

- The maintenance of Group property;
- The raising of funds and the administration of Group finance;
- The insurance of persons, property and equipment;
- Group public occasions;
- Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support;
- Appointing any sub-committees that may be required;
- Appointing Group Administrators and Advisors other than those who are elected.

Risk and internal control

The Group Trustee Board has identified the major risks to which they believe the Group is exposed. These have been reviewed, and systems have been established to mitigate against them. The main areas of concern that have been identified are:

Damage to the building, property and equipment. The Group would request the use of the buildings, property and equipment from neighbouring organisations such as the church, community centre and other Scout Groups. Similar reciprocal arrangements exist with these organisations. The Group has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss.

Injury to Leaders, helpers, supporters and members. The Group, through the capitation fees contribute to the Scout Association's national accident insurance policy. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities.

Reduced income from fund-raising. The Group is primarily reliant upon income from subscriptions and fundraising. The Group does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Trustee Board could raise the value of subscriptions to increase the income to the Group on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently. The review of the subscriptions is undertaken on a yearly basis.

Reduction or loss of Leaders. The Group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the Group. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular section of the Group as a whole, then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section or, in the worst-case scenario, the complete closure of the Group.

Reduction or loss of members. The Group provides activities for all young people aged 4 to 14 years. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular section or the Group as a whole, then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section, or in the worst-case scenario, the complete closure of the Group.

The Group has in place systems of internal control that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss. These include two signatories for all payments.

Objectives and activities

The objectives of the Group are as a unit of the Scout Association. The aim 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 method of achieving the Aim of the Association is by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training, based on the Scout Promise.

The Group Sections meeting on a regular basis not less than once per week during school term time. In addition, they participate in events run and controlled by the Scout District and Scout County. The Group meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings.

Achievements and performance

The Group Lead Volunteer acknowledges the time and commitment of the Section Leaders together with the contribution of the Group Trustee Board. Whilst these people commit many hours per year to the Group, it does not go unnoticed the myriad of parents that assist on section events, however small that contribution. Without all those small contributions the Group would not function to the present level of success that it enjoys.

General Data Protection Guidelines – GDPR

We do process data provided in the course of running the Group and carrying out activities. We keep personal data in relation to each family and their child in order to provide a contact database: to collect and manage payments; and to be aware of the medical history and conditions to enable us to keep children safe whilst on activities. As part of the safeguarding requirements of the Scout Association we also collect Criminal Records data for adults involved in activities.

Financial Review

Reserves Policy

The Group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the Group should income and fundraising activities fall short. The Group Executive Committee considers that the Group should hold a sum equivalent to 12 months running costs, reduced pro rata by the fact that lower income is caused by a number of factors, and if that is due to reduced members, this will result in lower running costs.

Financial Review

The Group Trustee Board has reviewed the reserve policy this year and it was agreed to hold a figure at or about the cost of running the building and insurance for a year without the benefit of members or income. The Group Executive's reserving policy has therefore been calculated on the basis of nil members and the building not being utilised, the reserve is therefore circa £4,000. It is recognised that this figure does not allow for any urgent capital expenditure but it is considered that the risk of nil members and a large urgent capital expenditure is highly unlikely.

Restricted Reserves

In addition to the general reserve restricted funds are held for each section where monies have been paid for activities that have not yet taken place at the financial year end.

Investment Policy

The Group's income and expenditure is small and as a consequence does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer term investments such as stocks and shares. The Group has therefore adopted a low-risk strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies.

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustee Report above.
Signed on behalf of the Charity Trustees:

Signature: ....

Name: ....

Position: ....

Date: ....

ACCOUNTS

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR END 31ST MARCH 2026

Total Funds 2025 (‘£)	Balances	General Funds 2026 (‘£)	Restricted Funds 2026 (‘£)	Total Funds 2026 (‘£)
105,804	**Total receipts for the year (see page 2)**	95,547	0	95,547
72,896	**Total payments for the year (see page 3)**	100,504	0	100,504
32,908	**Net receipts/payments for the year**	-4,957	0	-4,957
23,010	**Cash, bank and similar funds brought forward**	51,918	4,000	55,918
55,918	**Cash, bank and similar funds carried forward**	46,699	4,000	50,699
	REPRESENTED BY			
55,918	**Monetary assets (see page 4)**	46,699	4,000	50,699
55,918		46,699	4,000	50,699

INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2026

	General Funds 2026 ('£)	Restricted Funds 2026 ('£)	Total Funds 2026 ('£)
MEMBERSHIP			
Group sections	20,616		20,616
Arrowhead	6,911		6,911
	27,527		27,527
GROUP PREMISES			
Use of headquarters by third parties	4,500		4,500
Use of minivan	0		0
	4,500		4,500
ACTIVITIES			
Squirrels	143		143
Beavers	582		582
Cubs	345		345
Scouts	1,840		1,840
Arrowhead	2,760		2,760
	5,670		5,670
CAMPS			
Squirrels	75		75
Beavers	599		599
Cubs	2,880		2,880
Scouts	7,938		7,938
Arrowhead	22,844		22,844
	34,336		34,336
FAMILY EVENTS			
Burns night	1,276		1,276
Fireworks	2,712		2,712
Family camp	1,187		1,187
	5,174		5,174
FUNDRAISING			
Group fundraising	5,363		5,363
Gift Aid	9,469		9,469
Jamboree	3,194		3,194
	18,027		18,027
OTHER INCOME			
Admin, equipment etc.	313		313
	313		313
TOTAL INCOME	95,547	0	95,547

EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2026

	General Funds 2026 ('£)	Restricted Funds 2026 ('£)	Total Funds 2026 ('£)
MEMBERSHIP			
Group sections	8,126		8,126
Arrowhead	3,251		3,251
	11,377		11,377
GROUP PREMISES			
Cleaning	3,798		3,798
Venue maintenance	2,635		2,635
Minibus	544		544
Insurance	3,574		3,574
Utilities and broadband	1,920		1,920
	12,471		12,471
ACTIVITIES			
Squirrels	575		575
Beavers	1,434		1,434
Cubs	531		531
Scouts	2,793		2,793
Arrowhead	3,285		3,285
	8,618		8,618
CAMPS			
Squirrels	5		5
Beavers	234		234
Cubs	2,748		2,748
Scouts	8,503		8,503
Arrowhead	41,583		41,583
	53,072		53,072
FAMILY EVENTS			
Burns night	217		217
Fireworks	1,246		1,323
Family camp	2,046		2,046
	3,509		3,509
OTHER EXPENSES			
Uniforms & badges	1,470		1,470
Jamboree	2,260		
Admin, equipment etc.	7,728		7,728
	11,457		11,457
TOTAL PAYMENTS	100,504	0	100,504

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AT 31ST MARCH 2026

Total Funds 2025 (‘£)	MONETARY ASSETS	General Funds 2026 (‘£)	Restricted Funds 2026 (‘£)	Total Funds 2026 (‘£)
55,829	Barclays current account	46,610	4,000	50,610
89	OSM expense account	89	0	351
55,918		46,699	4,000	50,699

Value 2025	NON-MONETARY ASSETS (held for use by the Charity)	Additions 2026	Depreciation 2026	Value 2026
20,000	Land held in trust by Scout Association Trust Corp.	0	0	20,000
300,000	Buildings held in trust by Scout Association Trust Corp.	0	0	300,000
17,674	Minibus purchase in September 2020	0	1,767	15,907
28,764	Equipment furniture and fittings (insured value)			30,755
366,438				366,661

	STATEMENT OF RESERVES HELD	General	Restricted	Total
51,918	General group reserve	46,699	0	46,699
4,000	Reserve policy	0	4,000	4,000
55,918	TOTAL RESERVES	46,699	4,000	50,699

Scrutineer's Report to the Trustees of the
Third Royal Eltham Scout Group

I report on the accounts of the group fir the year ended 31st March 2026

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Scrutineer

As the Group's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the independent examination of them is required under the Charities Act 2011. It is my responsibility to scrutinise the accounts and report to you.

Basis of Scrutineer's Statement

In accordance with the directions given in the group's constitution, I have scrutinised the records and the accounts set out before me.

Scrutineer's Statement

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

Name: Mr John Sweeney

Address: 30, Duncroft, Plumstead, SE18 2JA

Date : 31st June 2026