3rd Taunton (Bishops Lydeard) Scout Group

Annual Report 2025 – 2026



From Little Acorns Mighty Oak Trees grow.....

President's Report

Yet another year has slipped by since I first started Scouting about 65 years ago! More than half of that time has been spent working at Bishops Lydeard. Back in my early days in the group we had an old Nissen hut where we held our meetings. At some point, during the time I was leading, a swimming pool was built on the lawn by the current Scout hut which was opened by a lady who used an 'ear trumpet' to be able to hear what was being said!

The current hut replaced the Nissen hut and was built by Charlie Back and has since had a shower block etc added to it...and there is a whisper that it may be re-vamped again...bringing it even more up to date

How fortunate we are that there are dedicated set of volunteers who maintain our premises as well as leading and guiding our youngsters to be 'good' citizens as well as becoming the future generation...do remember that from '*Little acorns, mighty oak trees grow*'... Baden Powell's favourite quote. It is time for me to thank all the Leaders again and wish everyone another happy year in Scouting

Yvonne Back
president@bishopslydeardscouts.org.uk

Group Scout Leader's Report

Bishops Lydeard Scout Group has had another great year! We have been able to offer a full, exciting and challenging programme across all sections, equipping our children with 'Skills for Life', We currently have in Excess of 140 Young People in our group.

I would like to thank all our Leaders and Helpers for their hard work and dedication. We have an amazing team of Leaders in all sections. Without these Leaders, who are all volunteers, we would be unable to offer such a successful level of Scouting activities. I would particularly like to thank Stuart Whitaker who has been a Leader and Chair of Trustees for many years and who sadly is standing down, we wish him all the best. We have welcomed new leaders and hope they will have a fulfilling, enjoyable time volunteering in our Scout Group.

As always we need more volunteers to help in all sections. Our volunteers plan and run amazing programmes for our young people. They need more support if we are to continue offering these opportunities. Your Section Leader will be able to explain more about being a member of the Team.

Volunteering is a two-way street. Research shows that it improves your wellbeing and helps you build career-boosting skills. Let us know you're interested, and we'll give you any support and training you need to let your skills shine. So please consider joining us.

Finally, thank you to our Trustees, who have worked quietly behind the scenes ensuring the Finance and Governance of our Scout Group is sound. We currently have one space on our Board of Trustees.

If you would like to join us in any capacity please contact me.

Jana Truby
Group Lead Volunteer
glv@bishopslydeardscouts.org.uk

Squirrel Scout Report

Another successful year for our youngest section. Squirrel Scouts have completed many exciting activities including, hikes, den building, campfires and some were brave enough to fly down the zip wire at District fun day.

A big thank you to our leaders, Jana, Baloo, Gemma and Louise and our Young Leader Taliah all of whom have helped to run the Section with enthusiasm and dedication. We would also like to thank the parents who stay each week and help when needed. Between us we make a great team.

Sadly Ballo is standing down as a leader at the end of this term, although we hope he will still come and visit us when he can. I would personally like to thank him for his support over the many years he has been with us.

Jana Truby
Squirrel Team Leader
Squirrels@bishopslydeardscouts.org.uk

Beaver Scout report

We have enjoyed another busy and fun-filled year across both Riverside and Woodland Beaver Colonies, with a packed programme of indoor and outdoor activities.

We currently run two Colonies, Riverside and Woodland, and follow a two-year programme designed to give Beavers the opportunity to complete as many activity badges as possible, while working towards their Chief Scout's Bronze Award.

During the past year, our Beavers have explored a wide range of topics and activities. They have learned about health and fitness, global issues, and dinosaurs during our popular "History Comes Alive" evening. They have also enjoyed archery, tried their skills on a slackline, and taken part in a stargazing evening on Lydeard Hill.

Our adventures have included visits to Tropiquaria and Combe Martin Wildlife & Dinosaur Park, as well as an exciting sleepover. We were delighted to take part in the District Beaver Camp, celebrating 40 years of Beaver Scouts, and joined the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch.

One of the highlights of the year was our carol singing at Bishops Lydeard Railway Station, where the Beavers helped raise funds for both the station and Bishops Lydeard Scout Group.

None of this would be possible without our fantastic team of Beaver volunteers, who generously give their time each week and at weekends to provide these opportunities. We are also grateful for the support of our Young Leaders, who attend regularly to help run activities, and to the parents who assist throughout the year.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed their time, enthusiasm and support. Together, we continue to give our Beavers unforgettable experiences and memories that will last a lifetime.

Fox & Ferret (Kirsty & Cody) & all the Beaver Volunteer Team
Riverside@bishopslydeardscouts.org.uk
Woodland@bishopslydeardscouts.org.uk

Cub Scout report

This year has been a busy, exciting, and enjoyable one for our Cub Pack, with the Cubs taking part in a wide range of activities designed to develop skills, confidence, teamwork, and independence.

A major focus throughout the year has been team building. Through a variety of fun games and challenges, the Cubs have learned the importance of working together, communicating effectively, supporting one another, and developing friendships within the Pack.

The Cubs have also enjoyed a number of outdoor and environmental activities. They built bug hotels, learning about local wildlife and the importance of creating habitats for insects and other small creatures. We have been on several hikes, helping the Cubs develop an appreciation for the outdoors while improving their navigation and walking skills.

Safety and learning have been key themes during the year. The Cubs took part in road safety activities, helping them understand how to stay safe when travelling and crossing roads. They have also enjoyed a range of science activities and experiments, encouraging curiosity, investigation, and problem-solving skills.

Our camping experience was one of the highlights of the year. The Cubs demonstrated resilience, independence, and teamwork while enjoying outdoor adventures and making lasting memories with their friends.

Cooking activities have given the Cubs the opportunity to learn practical life skills, including food preparation, hygiene, and following instructions. They thoroughly enjoyed creating and tasting their own dishes.

Throughout the year, the Cubs have shown enthusiasm, kindness, and a willingness to try new things. We are incredibly proud of their achievements and the progress they have made.

We would like to thank all of our volunteer leaders, young leaders, parent helpers, and supporters for their continued commitment and assistance throughout the year. Their support enables us to provide such a varied and exciting programme for our Cubs.

We look forward to another successful year filled with new adventures, challenges, and opportunities for our young people.

Jess Wood & Ben Wood Cub Lead Volunteers
Oak@bishopslydeardscouts.org.uk



3rd Taunton (Bishops Lydeard) Scout Group
Receipts and Payments Account

		Year start date		Year end date
For the year	**From**	**01/04/2025**	**To**	**31/03/2026**

Receipts and Payments

	2025/26				2024/25
	Unrestricted funds £	**Restricted funds** £	**Endowment funds** £	**Total funds** £	**Total funds** £
Receipts					
Donations, legacies and similar income					
Membership Fees	20,320	-	-	20,320	19,611
Donations	3,227	-	-	3,227	3,190
Gift Aid	2,911	-	-	2,911	7,828
Other similar income	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	**26,458**	**-**	**-**	**26,458**	**30,629**
Fundraising events					
Other fundraising activities	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**
Charitable activities					
Activities, Camps and other Events - Income	17,132	-	-	17,132	15,878
Sale of Badges and Scarves	21	-	-	21	-
Sale of Uniforms	889	-	-	889	556
Other charitable activities income	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	**18,042**	**-**	**-**	**18,042**	**16,434**
Other income					
Campsite and Hall lettings	7,368	-	-	7,368	6,717
Minibus Income	3,801	-	-	3,801	4,539
Other Income	3,528	-	-	3,528	267
Sub total	**14,697**	**-**	**-**	**14,697**	**11,523**
Investment income					
Bank and Building Society interest	1,161	-	-	1,161	1,773
Other investment income	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	**1,161**	**-**	**-**	**1,161**	**1,773**
Total gross income	**60,358**	**-**	**-**	**60,358**	**60,359**
Asset and investment sales, etc.	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	**60,358**	**-**	**-**	**60,358**	**60,359**

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	Year start date		Year end date
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Receipts and Payments

	2025/26				2024/25
	Unrestricted funds £	**Restricted funds** £	**Endowment funds** £	**Total funds** £	**Total funds** £
Payments					
Charitable payments					
Membership fees paid (National/County/Area/District)	11,126	-	-	11,126	10,992
Activities, Camps and other Events - Expenditure	21,696	-	-	21,696	19,007
Adult support and training	- 25	-	-	- 25	25
Donations Made	-		16	16	82
Cleaning	1,032			1,032	554
Rent	770	-	-	770	139
Utilities	2,731	-	-	2,731	2,174
Insurance	1,592	-	-	1,592	3,292
Repairs and renewals	6,635	-	-	6,635	2,161
Materials and equipment	886	-	-	886	3,001
Postage	2	-	-	2	-
Printing and Stationery	300			300	157
Telephone and Internet	255	-	-	255	436
IT Software	791			791	649
Bank and payment charges	24	-	-	24	16
Badges and Scarves - Purchase	1,739	-	-	1,739	2,206
Uniforms Purchase	1,224	-	-	1,224	2,829
Advertising and Marketing	25	-	-	25	-
Direct Wages	539	-	-	539	988
Travel - National	117			117	260
Minibus Costs	7,554			7,554	40,140
General Expenses	460	-	-	460	341
Sub total	**59,473**	**-**	**16**	**59,489**	**89,449**
Fundraising expenses					
Other fundraising costs	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**
Total gross expenditure	**59,473**	**-**	**16**	**59,489**	**89,449**
Asset and investment sales, etc.	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	**59,473**	**-**	**16**	**59,489**	**89,449**
Net of receipts/(payments)	**885**	**-**	**- 16**	**869**	**- 29,090**
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds last year end	50,729	-	680	51,409	80,500
Cash funds this year end	**51,614**	**-**	**664**	**52,278**	**51,410**

3rd Taunton (Bishops Lydeard) Scout Group
Receipts and Payments Account

		Year start date		Year end date
For the year	From	01/04/2025	To	31/03/2026

Statement of assets and liabilities at 31st March 2026

	31st March 2026				31st March 2025
	Unrestricted funds £	**Restricted funds** £	**Endowment funds** £	**Total funds** £	**Total funds** £
Cash funds					
Bank current account	3,079	-	664	3,743	4,663
Bank savings account	10,062	-	-	10,062	-
Building society instant account	14,391	-	-	14,391	20,145
Building society 95-day account	22,166	-	-	22,166	26,263
Online Scout Manager Card	14	-	-	14	-
Soldo Card	1,853	-	-	1,853	333
PayPal	46	-	-	46	3
Equals Money Card	3	-	-	3	3
Total cash funds	**51,614**	**-**	**664**	**52,278**	**51,410**
(agree balances with receipts and payments a/c)	ok	ok	ok	ok	ok
Investment assets					
Quoted investments Uplift	87,532	-	-	87,532	87,532
Quoted investments Cost	28,779	-	-	28,779	20,304
Sub total	**116,311**	**-**	**-**	**116,311**	**107,836**
Total net assets	**167,925**	**-**	**664**	**168,589**	**159,246**

The above receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on 8th September 2026 (the date of the Trustee Board meeting that approved the accounts) and signed on their behalf by

Signature	Print Name
	Chair
	Neil Truby, Treasurer

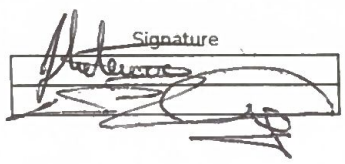
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Signature	Print Name
	JONATHAN LITTLEWOOD Chair
	Neil Truby, Treasurer

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of 3rd Taunton (Bishops Lydeard) Scout Group

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the 3rd Taunton (Bishops Lydeard) Scout Group for the year ended 31st March 2026.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the 3rd Taunton (Bishops Lydeard) Scout Group you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Group's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the 3rd Taunton (Bishops Lydeard) Scout Group as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Name: Jodie Farkas, Fellow Chartered Accountant

Address: Lentells Limited Chartered Certified Accountants Ash House, Cook Way, Bindon Road, Taunton, TA2 6BJ

Date: 14th September 2026