Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date				Period end date		
From	1	April	2025	To	31	March	2026

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	Bearsted Scout Group
Other names charity is known by	n/a
Registered charity number (if any)	303412 **Registered charity number (if any)**
Charity's principal address	Bearsted Scout Headquarters
	Church Landway, Bearsted
	Maidstone, Kent
	Postcode **ME14 4NE**

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Simon Wood	Chair		
2	Malcolm Kersey	Treasurer		
3	Toni Carter	Secretary		
4	Nicholas Ross			
5	Alisdair Reid			
6	Harriet Turner			
7	Robert Ludlow		from 27 September 2025	
8	Colin Bolt		from 27 October 2025	
9	Laurren Cruttenden		From 27 October 2025	
10				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	The Group's governing documents are those of The Scout Association.
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	The Group is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Scouts.
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

The Group, which is an educational charity, is managed by a Group Trustee Board. 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.

This Trustee Board exists to support the Group Lead Volunteer in meeting the responsibilities of the 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.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

Bearsted Scout Group is set up under the Scout Association Rules and provides Scouting for the local community for young people aged from 4 to 25 and adult members as stated in the Scout Association Rules.

Scouting exists actively to engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

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. It does this primarily by providing Scouting activities for young people aged between 4 and 25, notably including hiking, archery, camping, and climbing.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

The organisation is wholly dependent on activities arranged by volunteers who freely give up their time to support our young people.

Section D Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Membership of young persons in the Group has continued to grow over the past year. The establishment of a second Beaver colony in January 2026 has enabled us to accommodate more Beavers in the 6-8 year age, significantly reducing the waiting lists. Membership levels in the other sections (One Squirrel Drey, another Beaver Colony, two Cub Packs and 1 Scout Troop) continue to remain high.

During August 2025, the Scout Troop also attended the Kent International Jamboree for a week-long camp, representing the Scout Group at this international event.

The Group has undertaken a number of fundraising events throughout the financial year to raise funds towards the maintenance of camping and activity equipment.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Group does not have a formal policy on reserves. The Treasurer ensures that it holds sufficient resources to continue its charitable activities, should income and fundraising activities fall short.

To this end the Treasurer ensures that, as an absolute minimum the Group holds a sum equivalent to 12 months running costs, circa £6,000 for 2025/26. After rising sharply in the recent past, costs have stabilised with new long-term contracts for utilities, albeit at higher levels than in the past.

The Group held reserves of approximately £4,800 at the end of 2025/26. Although that was less than planned, once an overdue payment was received in early April 2026, the value of the reserves was restored.

In addition, the Sections (Squirrel Drey; Beaver Colonies, Cub Packs and Scout Troop) held sufficient funds to enable each of them independently to arrange activities for young people. Furthermore, the Fundraising account continues to accumulate funds to cover the costs of future improvements to, and maintenance of equipment and facilities.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Our regular income involves subscriptions which cover Scout Group running costs, and contributions to support the District, County and National Scout Association hierarchy. Additional contributions are received to enable us to provide further special activities for our young people.

The principal means of fundraising continues to be running barbecues at events organised by other local organisations, thereby enhancing outreach within the community.

The accounts show four exceptional items of income:

a. a second grant of £1,000 from the Gallagher Community Fund; to be used to complete works in the new stores building.

b. £300 from the Master Upholsters in memory of Alan Croucher Senior, a former Scout and Leader; to be used to replace the notice board in the grounds facing Church Landway

c. Sums of £100 and £250 for Osprey Cubs from NatWest as compensation for poor administration of the bank account.

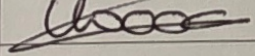
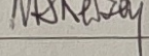
It is proposed to commence claiming of Gift Aid tax relief early in the next Financial Year. The money received will allow the current level of subscriptions for young people to be maintained at the level established in 2015/16 for at least a further year.

Section F Other optional information

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Simon Wood	Malcolm Kersey
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Treasurer (2025/26)

Date 2 September 2026

Bearsted Scout Group Accounts 2025-2026

Section	Opening balances				Income	Subscriptions to Group / District	Net Income	Net Expenditure	Surplus (-Deficit)	Closing balances			
	Cash	Bank	Total	Liabilities*						Cash	Bank	Total	Liabilities*
Sparrowhawk Squirrels		648.85	648.85		2,126.00	1,330.00	796.00	655.40	140.60		789.45	789.45	104.00
Falcon Beavers (Dormant section)		618.81	618.81				-618.81		-618.81				
Falcon Beavers					1,166.00	665.00	501.00	281.52	219.48		219.48	219.48	
Harrier Beavers		2,706.69	2,706.69	-712.84	3,828.00	595.00	3,233.00	2,185.07	1,047.93		3,754.62	3,754.62	1,921.00
Merlin Cubs		3,912.81	3,912.81	-543.55	4,732.77	2,835.00	1,897.77	3,301.70	-1,403.93		2,508.88	2,508.88	
Osprey Cubs	100.00	744.15	844.15	183.04	7,157.53	2,520.00	4,637.53	4,442.61	194.92		1,039.07	1,039.07	
Haydock Scouts	50.22	7,898.96	7,949.18		13,162.30	2,870.00	10,292.30	10,583.32	-291.02	94.52	7,563.64	7,658.16	
Fundraising		18,572.36	18,572.36	-263.63	8,909.99		8,909.99	4,928.58	3,981.41		22,553.77	22,553.77	314.49
Group		9,625.24	9,625.24	595.00	12,158.81	9,663.00	2,495.81	7,300.60	-4,804.79		4,820.45	4,820.45	-2,083.95
Totals	150.22	44,727.87	44,878.09	-741.98	44,136.11	20,478.00	32,144.59	33,678.80	-1,534.21	94.52	43,249.36	43,343.88	255.54

***A positive number indicates committed expenditure;**
A negative number indicates funds that are due to be received

Figures for Charity Commission Return

Income **£32,145**
Spending **£33,679**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of 1st Bearsted Scout Group

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the 1st Bearsted Scout Group for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the 1st Bearsted 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 1st Bearsted Scout Group 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 1st Bearsted 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: Matthew Paramor

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): ACA

Address: 107 Merton Road, Bearsted, ME15 8LR

Date: 14 September 2026