



14TH BROMLEY SCOUT GROUP ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

FRIDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER 2025

CAREY SCUTT HALL

93 PLAISTOW LANE

BROMLEY BR1 3AR

TIME: 6.30PM

Item	Agenda	
1.	Welcome and Introduction	Chair
2.	Apologies for Absence	Chair
3.	Approve the minutes of the AGM held on 3rd July 2024	Chair
4.	Presentation of the Trustees Annual Report a. Chair of the Board of Trustees' address b. Group Lead Volunteer's Address c. Group Treasurer's Address	Chair GLV Treasurer
5.	Governance Matters a. Re-adopt the 2024 Group Constitution b. Note the Group's financial year c. Approve appointed and community members of the Group Scout Council d. Agree the number of members to be appointed to the Trustee Board e. Appoint Group Chair and Group Treasurer f. Elect members or maintain members of the Group Trustee Board g. Appoint the independent Inspector (Group Accounts Examiner) h. Agree the Quorum for future meetings of the Group Scout Council	Chair Chair Chair Chair GLV Chair Chair Chair
6.	Any Other Business	Chair
7.	Closing Remarks and formal close	Chair



Chairman's Message 2025

Members of the 14th Scout Group Council

I will begin by mentioning several people. Alexandra Leroye Sakurai, from whom I took over as Chair of the Board of Trustees earlier this year, and 3 of our Section Lead Volunteers who are standing down as Trustees. They are Elizabeth Bostock, Michael Rayment Johnson and Paul Musk. I would like to thank them all for their hard work and direction whilst on the Board of Trustees, their contribution is greatly appreciated. Happily all are staying with the Group in their Section roles.

The group continues to make progress with the Scout Volunteering Transformation, a move from a Group Executive Committee to a Trustee Board, concerned with the governance of the Group, and an Operational Team, predominantly the Leadership Team, concerned with the day to day running of the group.

The Operational team continues to maintain the premises to an excellent and safe condition through their hard work along with organising regular work sessions well supported by parents and supporters. Added to this they also continued to run exciting and fun activities, including camps and weekly programmes, for all 5 sections and providing the members the opportunity to progress through The Scout Association award schemes.

The Group is in a sound financial position through the income from section subscriptions, hall lettings, and donations, and together these provided the funds for any work required to be done on the premises and have allowed the purchase of new equipment for the Group as required.

I would like to conclude by thanking all the Leaders, all the Section helpers, supporters, and parents, and all the members of the different sections that week-in week-out continue to make the 14th Bromley Scout Group the success it is.



Trustee's Reports

Reference and administration information

We present below the reference and administration details of the charity as required by law.

Name: 14th Bromley Scout Council

Registered Charity Number: 303551

Registered Address: Carey Scutt Scout Hall, Plaistow Lane, Bromley, BR1 3AR

Trustees

The charity trustees who managed the charity from 3rd July 2024 to the date of signing this report were as listed below.

Steven Holman – Chair

Shelley Falcon – Treasurer

Sarah-Jane Durman – Group Lead Volunteer

Elizabeth Bostock

Matthew Lofting

Michael Rayment-Johnson

Joseph Collier

Paul Musk

Marie Sripha*

Tom Bostock

Andrew McClellan*

Previous Appointments

Alexandra Leroye Sakurai – Chair (to 25 March 2024)

*Have provisional trustee role

Bankers

Current Account

CAF Bank

Accounts Examiner

Mr. Peter Eastwood



Governance and management

The charity is governed by its governing document and, also follows the requirements of the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association (POR). The governing document being the 14th Bromley Scout Group Constitution which was adopted by the 14th Bromley Scout Council at the AGM held on 3rd July 2024. Restructuring, in line with guidelines from The Scout Association continues to provide greater clarity and segregation between Group operations and governance, with good progress being made in establishing both a Trustee Board and a separate Operational Team.

Risk and internal controls

The trustees are following The Scout Association's POR and by using a Risk Register have identified what are believed to be major risks to the charity and these risks will be reviewed 6 monthly, annually or bi-annually dependent upon severity of risk. The risks are categorised as Legal & Regularity, Governance, Financial, Operational or External.

A Finance Management Policy is in place ensuring the group's income is managed properly and put to best use. A financial report is reviewed at each Board of Trustees meetings providing sufficient information so that good decisions can be made.

Key activities since the last AGM

The trustees have maintained a sound financial position allowing the various sections to be supported both financially and with resources for their activities and camps. Monitoring the premises for safety and good maintenance along with managing the letting of the halls have been key activities as has the safe-guarding of our members.

Report approved at the meeting of the Board of Trustees held on 2nd September 2025.

GLV report for the 14th Bromley Scout Group Sept 2025

Group Lead Volunteer report for 14th Bromley Scout Group Sept 2025

This year there have been big changes within the UK scout movement as we move into the team led vision of scouting. There is now a trustee board and an operational board within our group. Hopefully this will help with the efficient way of running this excellent group. All our sections-Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers have healthy numbers and enjoy activities carefully thought out and arranged by their relevant leaders. Thanks, should go to these volunteer leaders who often spend hours of their own free time attending training sessions and thinking up amazing and interesting sessions for all the young people. The young people have attended camps, night hikes, climbing sessions to name a few of the activities. There have been visits from outside groups demonstrating skills such as animal care, safety on the beach etc.

All the sections have enjoyed the District Events arranged by the Youth Events Team, some of which are our own leaders. These events are age appropriate and are both fun and challenging for our young people. Maybe some of our scouts or explorers will attend the 26th World Jamboree being held in Poland July/August 2027.

Our buildings and grounds are still in relatively good shape although we are going to have to reroof the Thompson Hall due to leaks. This will be big blow to our budget but needs must. Regular working parties are held with leaders, parents, scouts and explorers helping out.

This year has been the usual successful one for the Group and we are hoping to welcome some more volunteer leaders soon. Volunteers are always welcome. There are always challenges but we strive to conquer those and continue in vein of Scouting as Baden Powell first set out over 100 years ago. Scouting continues to be one of the largest youth groups in the world and is enjoyed by millions of youngsters daily in over 200 countries.

Sarah-Jane Durman
Group Lead Volunteer

Financial Review 2024-25

The underlying principle of 14th Bromley Scout Group is to support and assist all the functions and activities undertaken by our members. To this end, we do not set out to make an annual cash surplus. We aim to at least break even on our day to day expenses and maintain sufficient funds for repairs to our assets. We have a Financial Management Policy in place which outlines the acceptable reserve levels which we aim to maintain at all times.

Income

The total scouting subs for the year increased by 14%, which is very reassuring for the future of the group (from £10.3k to £11.7k). Unfortunately the large increase in District capitation fees (Up from £44.80 per child per year to £54.90) has offset the increase.

We benefitted from the increased bank interest which went from £374 to £841 for the year.

We were fortunate to have another strong year from hall rental income. There was a 3% fall in this income, but we believe this will increase next year.

Costs

Most running costs remained similar to last year apart from maintenance costs which increased by 110%. This was due to ad-hoc repairs that were needed to the premises to ensure the safety of all users. These included roof repairs (£3k), door repairs (£2.1k), fence replacement (£1.2k), electrical work (£1.2k) and plumbing work (£680).

I am pleased to say that the hall rental income covered 97% of the building running costs which allowed each section to make full use of the subs generated.

Financial Outlook

The year ended with a small loss of £1.8k. The 14th Bromley Scout Group remains in a very strong financial position with reserves of £44k available to the group which exceeds the minimum agreed reserve fund stated in the Financial Management Policy. This will enable us to continue our work with our members and benefit our community.

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' report above

Chair – Steve Holman

Treasurer – Shelley Falcon

September 2025

September 2025

14th Bromley Scout Group Receipts & Payments Accounts

Year start date

Year end date

For the year from	1st April 2024
----------------------	-------------------

31st March 2025

Receipts

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2023-24 Total funds £
Membership, activities and other income				
Membership subscriptions	11,728	-	11,728	10,279
Less : Membership subscriptions paid on to District / County/ HQ	6,423	-	6,423	4,386
Net membership subscriptions retained by Group	5,305	-	5,305	5,893
Donations	700	-	700	1,078
Gift Aid	1,746	-	1,746	1,848
Activity Income (camps/trips)	16,222	-	16,222	20,348
	-	-	-	-
Sub total	23,973	-	23,973	29,167
Grants				
Jack Petchy	-	-	-	200
Govt Grants	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	200
Fundraising (gross)				
Fundraising for Group / Others	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-
Other Income				
Bank interest	841	-	841	374
Hall Rentals	24,000	-	24,000	24,809
Sub total	24,840	-	24,840	25,183
Total Receipts	48,813	-	48,813	54,551

Year start date

Year end date

For the year
from1st April
2024

to

31st March
2025**Payments**

			2023-24	
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
Activity costs - CAMPS/Activities	22,871		22,871	26,207
Scouting equipment/Badges/Scarves	2,977	-	2,977	3,459
		-	-	-
Sub total	25,848	-	25,848	29,666
Headquarters running costs				
Rates	277	-	277	259
Water and Sewerage	415	-	415	170
Gas, Electricity	5,158	-	5,158	5,040
Telephone, Broadband	871	-	871	723
Insurance	2,005	-	2,005	1,999
Maintenance	11,868	-	11,868	5,644
Cleaning	4,125	-	4,125	3,896
Bank Charges	60	-	60	60
Sub total	24,780	-	24,780	17,791
Administration				
ADMIN (Printing, postage, AGM expenses, presentations, etc)	-	-	-	-
Donations	-	-	-	-
Sundries	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-
Total Gross Expenditure	50,628	-	50,628	47,457
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 1,814	-	- 1,814	7,094
Funds as at 1 Apr 2024	45,908	-	45,908	38,814
Funds as at 31 Mar 2025	44,093	-	44,093	45,908

Statement of assets and liabilities at 31 March 2025

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2023-24 Total funds £
Cash funds				
Bank current account	42,514	-	42,514	28,252
Beavers Account	830		830	1,361
Cubs Account	2,020		2,020	6,770
Scouts Account	2,631		2,631	5,029
Explorers Account	2,985	-	2,985	7,617
Cash/Floats	765	-	765	765
	51,745	-	51,745	49,794

Other monetary assets

Monies prepaid by members for future activities (net)	- 6,075	-	- 6,075	- 3,255
Accrued Income received in May	1,746	-	1,746	205
Prepaid Income (for 2025-26)	- 1,856		- 1,856	
Prepaid Activity costs (Camp 2025)	1,262		1,262	
Accrued costs	- 2,729	-	- 2,729	835

Funds available for Group use



44,094	-	44,094	45,908
---------------	----------	---------------	---------------

0

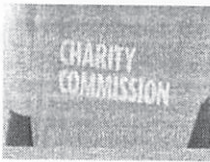
Other Assets

Land and buildings at insurance declared valuation	774,924	-	774,924	753,084
Equipment, furniture etc at insurance declared valuation	52,283	-	52,283	51,510
Other	-	-	-	-
Sub total	827,207	-	827,207	804,594

The above Receipts and Payments Account and the Statement of Assets and Liabilities were approved by the trustees on _____ and signed on their behalf by

S Holman	Chairman
S. I Falcon	Treasurer



Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Report to the trustees of

Charity Name
14th Bromley Scout Group

On accounts for the year

1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025 Charity no **303551**

Set out on pages

1 to 3
(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145 (5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention :

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met ; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: 

Date: **15 August 2025**

Name: **Peter Eastwood**

Address: **1 Sidewood Road**
New Eltham
London SE9 2EZ

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems.

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

[Empty rectangular box for disclosure details]

Section Reports

14th Bromley Cubs – report for the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on Friday 12 September 2025

This update covers the period from July 2024 to September 2025. We have had a very busy year with the Cubs and I would like to thank all my leaders for their enthusiasm and dedication which they bring every week.

This report summarises some of our key highlights over the year.

Summer term 2024

We held 'The 14th Bromley Cubs First Olympics' on 1 July and some of the cubs wore togas. We hiked around Beckenham Place Park and held another Restaurant night. We finished the term on 22 July at Norman Park with wide games and rounders.

Our summer camp was 7 nights on the Isle of Wight in August which was a lot of fun.

Autumn term 2024

We returned after the summer holidays on 9 September with an evening of team games. We were working towards the Skills challenge badge and had evenings covering healthy eating, food groups, first aid and problem solving activities.

We also held a 'Cubs got Talent and Bring a pet night' which was a lot of fun.

We held another restaurant night, inviting parents and carers to join us to eat spaghetti bolognese.

We also learned how to light fires and had a night hike around Keston common.

We held a one night camp in October at Waylands (with the squirrels and beavers) and held a World War Two themed sleepover on 16/17 November with a trip to Chislehurst Caves.

A number of cubs took part in the District Athletics badge day at Norman Park on 12 October and then the swimming badge evening on 23 November.

We finished the term using the traversing wall, making Christmas decorations from clay and finally a trip to Laser Quest on 16 December.

Spring term 2025

We returned after Christmas on 6 January, with an evening of team games. On 13 January, we had a camp night with knot tying. On 20 January, we did the Book reader activity badge, based on World Book Day. On 27 January, we celebrated Chinese New Year and on 3 February, we completed the International activity badge.

We finished the half term on 10 February by going swimming at the Pavilion.

We returned after the holiday on 24 February, with a night hike around Jubilee Park where we also finished off the Astronomer badge by identifying three constellations.

On 3 March, we made pancakes. On 10 March, we did the Scientist activity badge and on 27 March, we did fire lighting in the garden. On 24 March, we had an artistic evening for the Artist activity badge. We finished the term on 31 March with an easter celebration.

In the term, we took part in the District DIY badge on 8 February.

We also ran a 1 night camp at Waylands on 8 March which 13 cubs attended.

We had 10 cubs join the St. George's Day district event at Frylands on 27 April, which was a lot of fun. I was at Windsor Castle with Liz (Chil) and Tom, celebrating him receiving his Meritorious Conduct Award.

Summer term 2025

We returned after Easter on 28 April, with an evening of team games. On 12 May, we practiced map reading by turning the hall into a giant map grid with the aid of masking tape – finished off with a game of Battleships.

We also invested 5 new cubs who had come up from Beavers. We also invested our young leader 'Owl' and reinvested Tom Bostock (aka Tigger) as he is now an adult leader.

We also awarded Christopher Nye-Jones with his Chief Scout Silver Award and wished him well as he continues his scouting journey at Scouts.

We finished the term with our 5 night summer camp to Adamswell (with 32nd Bromley) in July.

Autumn term 2025

We have another exciting term planned including a one night camp at Bears Wood (with the 32nd Bromley) and a trip to the Lord Mayors Show and Tower of London on the day before our Group Remembrance Service on 9 November.

Once again, I would like to thank all the leaders for their time, energy, and commitment to running the 14th Bromley Cub pack.

Michael Johnson (Akela)

Cub Team Leader, September 2025

14th Bromley Squirrels – report for the Annual General Meeting (AGM)

This update covers the period from July 2024 to September 2025. We have had a very fun and busy year with the Squirrels. This report summarises some of our key highlights over the year.

Summer term 2024

- In the Summer term, we:
- Held a world safari
- Went on a nature walk
- Made a bug hotel
- Made fires and cooked smores
- Created a vegetable patch
- Started learning how to read a map
- Had an indoor Teddy Bear's picnic (due to the weather)
- Iced biscuits and created summer holiday scrapbooks.

We also took part in the Squirrel District event at Cudham on 23 June. We presented our first ever Chief Scout Acorn award in May.

Autumn term 2024

- In the Autumn term, we:
- Painted our favourite thing
- Found out about scouts around the world
- Used the traversing wall for the first time
- Held an indoor camp with hot chocolate
- Lit fires for bonfire night
- Went on a night walk to Keston Ponds
- Had a road Safety night (including a fire drill on 22 November)
- Made Christmas cards and decorations

We visited the Clairleigh Nursing Home on Plaistow Lane on 11 October and then St John's Church on 6 December. We held a pirate-themed one-night camp at Waylands on 12/13 October.

We took part in the Group Remembrance Service 10 November.

Some Squirrels attended the 'Carols round the campfire' District event on 7 December.

We finished the term on 20 December, with a trip the Churchill Theatre to see The Nutcracker.

Spring term 2025

In the Spring term, we:

- Made friends and created a giant oak tree
- Created a supermarket with different foods to try
- Celebrated Squirrel Appreciation Day by making chocolate nest cakes
- Started working towards the Exciting Experiments badge with sensory boxes and making cress heads
- Had a Pet themed evening, where we learned how to look after our pets and then we painted our favourite pet/animal
- Had a Valentine themed afternoon tea and invited parents/carers to join us for tea, sandwiches and jam scones
- Made pancakes
- Made bird feeders
- Made models out of junk
- Went bat hunting at Keston Ponds
- Made cards and presents for Mother's Day
- Went to soft play at the Pavilion

We also went on a trip to the British Wildlife Centre on 15 March. This was originally supposed to be a District-led event, but no other Dreys signed up...so we went on our own instead and had a fab time!

On 22 March, we hired a mini-bus and went on a trip to Godstone Farm which was loads of fun. We came back to the hall for dinner, watched Thomas the Tank Engine and then a sleepover.

We took part in the St. George's Day event at Frylands on 27 April. Five squirrels came along and one read the Promise which was great.

We awarded four Chief Scout Acorn Awards at the end of term.

Summer term 2025

- In the summer term, we:
- Had a pirate themed night
- Made our best buildings out of lego for the Brilliant Builder badge
- Made feeling faces and feeling jars for the Feel Good badge
- Made dens in Elmstead Woods
- Leant how to make fires safely
- Had an evening all about World Ocean Day and made a giant whale out of recycled materials
- Welcomed the Judo
- Held the 14th Bromley Squirrels Wimbledon tennis tournament – with a qualified tennis coach to teach the squirrels
- Went pond dipping at High Elms
- Designed a palace for our favourite teddy bears
- Had an emergency aid evening led by Sarah-Jane
- Had a Teddy Bears picnic
-

We awarded two Chief Scout Acorn Awards at the end of term.



Autumn term 2025

We have an exciting term planned including a one night camp at Bears Wood (with the cubs).

I would like to thank everyone for their support with our Squirrel drey, in particular Emma Morton-Turner and Emma Kerr who are fantastic leaders and Camilla Kerr and Lewis Hitch, our young leaders who are a great help.

Liz Bostock

Squirrel Team Leader, September 2025

14th Bromley Beavers – report for the Annual General Meeting (AGM)

This report covers from the 2024 Autumn term to the start of Autumn 2025.

It has been another successful year for Beavers, with plenty of hard work put in behind the scenes from all the team. By the end of this term, we would have delivered 80+ hours of scouting, not including time spent for planning, organising and admin. My last report noted we ended that year with 17 beavers, this year we hit the limit of 24 beavers, averaging 22 regularly attending each week. We are certainly seeing an up tick from Squirrels moving up as well as new starters. I recently read somewhere that nationally beaver numbers are falling, however we seem to be doing something right with our younger sections.

Autum 24, we made good use of the climbing wall, it's a firm favourite with beavers. We also learnt some Knots and made fires to cook dampers on. The dampers went down well after the second attempt as our first mix of dough didn't go so well. A scavenger hunt around the local area had beavers trying to spot a few things and answer some questions along the way. They even had a go at navigating. If we followed their directions we would have been in the Oak Pub instead of back on Plaistow Lane. Wide games are another popular feature as the days get shorter. 200 glow sticks and 20 Beavers results in a lot of fun over an evening at Wilberforce. The term was tailed off with bowling at the pavilion, a fire drill completing their safety badge and of course a Christmas party.

In the middle of the Autumn term, we had a very successful sleepover at Waylands campsite. This was a joint effort with the squirrels and cubs spear headed by Liz Bostock. The pirate themed weekend was enjoyed by all the ages, with den building, flag making, treasure hunts and tasty food. I think there must have been over 40 young people attending with 10 from beavers.



The spring term, we completed the first aid, navigator, international and camp craft badges. We made mini catapults with lollipop sticks ticking off the pioneering challenge. Later, we learned about Chinese New Year and their lantern festival by making our own paper lanterns. We also tried a few foods from around the world as well as what beavers are like around the world for the international badge. Meeting on Tuesdays we couldn't ignore Shrove Tuesday, many pancakes were expertly mixed, flipped and devoured. A visit to the fire station was great fun despite the crew getting called out 3 times within the hour! Beavers had just enough time to have a look around one of their fire engines and sit in the driver's seat.

The start of the summer term was the annual St George's day event at Frylands Wood. A great day was had by all the beavers; we split down into two groups and raced around as many activities as we could. This is always a great event and the first time it hasn't rained. We completed the health and fitness badge by making a giant poster about the different food groups followed by several agility activities to measure how the heart rate changes. One evening we set the beavers a challenge to protect an egg from being dropped from height. They were very resourceful only having a few cups, straws, newspapers and cello tape to work with. A couple of eggs did survive. The communicator badge was completed making semaphore flags and decoding messages. The term was finished off with lots of excitement with s'mores made over the fire followed by crazy golf in Sidcup.

Coming full circle as we enter this autumn term, we plan to redo some firm favourites and attempt the experiment badge with baking soda rockets. Toilet roll mummies are coming up later in the term with decorating gingerbread biscuits for Christmas. Over this reporting year we have awarded 4 Chief Scout Bronze Awards to Luna Cowling, Mallory Tate, Zachary Lowe and Finley Hollands. The Beaver of the year trophy was presented to Zachary Lowe, at November's Remembrance Day service. Beavers have been ticking along with the dedication of Liz, Alex and Maire always bring fresh ideas and enthusiasm to the table each week. Without them beavers wouldn't be what it is today, so my big thanks go to them for another amazing year. This has also now been a full year of using our family rota. It's been great having at least one parent helping us each week, it has not only helped us out but has given parents the opportunity to see what we get up to each week and the effort that goes into making it. I hope this continues to grow and who knows, hopefully we get an extra leader out of it.

Matthew Lofting
Beaver Scout Leader

Scout Section Report 14th Bromley Group Trustee Board – Annual General Meeting (2024-25)

It has been another busy year for the 14th Bromley Scout Troop.

January 2025 saw the section produce a strong census return with twenty-five scouts on our books. This represented a loss of six scouts on our 2024 return. Fortunately, since census, we have returned to growth with thirty-one scouts on our books as we head into the 2025-26 academic year. Maintaining healthy membership numbers remains a priority for the leadership team.

We remain supported by five full time leaders – one 'Team Leader' and four 'Team Members'. We also continue to count on the regular support of two regular helpers. Unfortunately, we expect one of our current 'Team Members' to partially step back from scouting this year. Leader recruitment will therefore also be a priority for the forthcoming year, with a potential new leader joining us for a trial as we return for the Autumn Term.

Summer Term 2024 began with games and a visit from the District Youth Commissioner Team, focusing on 'Youth Shaped Scouting'. In April, fourteen scouts attended the District 'St George's Day Funday' at Frylands Wood'. Scouts also earned their 'Model Maker Activity Badge' through a Warhammer-supported session, where they built and painted figurines. The first half of term concluded with scouts practising knot skills. In May, we held our Spring Camp at Thriftwood Scout Activity Centre, offering activities including cave bus, crossbows, climbing, kayaking, cresta run, and leap of faith. Additionally, three scouts participated in the District 'Water Sport Activity Day' on in June, earning various 'Time on the Water' and 'Paddle Sport' Staged Activity Badges. In the second half of the term, scouts visited the Bromley Environmental Education Centre at High Elms (BEECHE); practised knife, axe, and saw skills; enjoyed backwoods cooking and wide games; and took part in our annual rounders match against the 11th Bromley. The term ended with egg-protection challenges and a water games evening. Due to low uptake, we did not hold a summer camp in 2024.

Autumn Term 2024 began with games and a fire essentials evening, where scouts experimented with various fire-lighting methods. Ten scouts attended Bromley District's 'Survival Camp' in September, participating in knife, axe, and saw work, survival kit making, distress signals, fish gutting, and backwoods cooking. Other highlights included a visit from the UK Owl and Raptor Centre, where scouts handled and flew birds of prey, followed by a photo scavenger hunt, team-building activities, circuit training, and the annual 'submarines' evening. At Frylands Wood, scouts tried air rifle shooting and an assault course. The term continued with the District's Swimming Badge Assessment Evening, creative sessions making woggles and Lego models, and ended with ice skating at Ruxley Manor. Scouts also took part in the annual Remembrance Sunday service, where four Chief Scout Gold Awards were presented to Leo Roberts, Kayhan Durmush, Lucy Scarsbrook, and Zoe Scarsbrook. Lola Gawen received the Geoff Pinniger Trophy for most improved scout, with honourable mentions to Benjamin Palmer and Sam Lindsey for their contributions.

Spring Term 2025 began with games and a well-received bowling evening at the Pavilion Leisure Centre. Scouts celebrated Burns Night with highland games and haggis tasting and marked the Lunar New Year with themed games and cultural learning. Navigation and orienteering skills were developed through map work in preparation for the term's night hike. Pancake night wrapped up the first half of term. In the second half of the term, scouts prepared for the 'Scouts of Steel' competition with a mini-assault course, cooked chocolate brownies in orange skins over open fires, and built mini catapults. A yoga session promoted mindfulness, and the term ended with the high-energy 'Pirates' game at the 22nd Bromley scout hall. At Bromley District's 'Scouts of Steel' in March, thirteen scouts competed across three teams. Notably, Hari Hughes won the under-12-and-a-half individual race. Later in March, seventeen scouts completed a 9km night hike from Keston Common to Waylands Scout Campsite, earning their 'Hikes Away' badge. In April, ten scouts attended the District's 'St George's Day Funday' at Frylands Wood, enjoying over forty-five activities including JCB driving and Lego robot wars, with a modern retelling of the St George story. The event was the District's largest ever and ran smoothly thanks to improved logistics and sunny weather.

Summer Term 2025 began with games and a 'rescue mission' evening during which scouts had to build a stretcher and 'rescue' a member of their team from danger. An evening servicing tents and quatermastering kit ahead of summer camp followed; as well as an evening off site playing volleyball at Kings Meadow. Critical thinking challenges; knife, axe, and saw work; and fire building followed, with scouts preparing and cooking 'pitta bread pizzas' on open fires. An evening on cracking cryptic puzzles followed in preparation for the return of Bromley District's ever-popular 'Moonwalk' event. Moonwalk took place in June with ten scouts attending the overnight 'incident hike'. Unfortunately, we did not bring any silverware home this year, but all scouts had a great time. Our annual rounders match against the 11th Bromley Scouts; a blind taste test evening; and our traditional end of term water fight rounded off the term.

Nineteen scouts and seven leaders joined us for Summer Camp 2025, held at Kibblestone International Scout Centre in Stone, Staffordshire. The seven-night camp saw scouts take part in activities including axe throwing, jacobs ladder, high all aboard, climbing, eliminator, and crate stacking. Day trips included a hike along the River Dove (following the Dovedale trail in the Peak District); a trip to Waterworld in Stoke; Tubing at the Stoke Ski Centre; and a (very popular) day out at Drayton Manor Resort. Four of the scouts joining us were from the 15th Bromley. A great time was had by all, and we look forward to beginning work on Summer Camp 2026!

I have been well supported this year by Steven Lofting, Chloe White, Sophie Durman, Sarah-Jane Durman, Amy White, Steve White, and Adam Channon. This would have been a difficult year without them, and I extend my thanks, and the thanks of parents, to them for their continued support and dedication to the 14th Bromley Scout Troop.

Joseph Collier

Scout Leader – 14th Bromley

14th Bromley Explorers – Section report for the Annual General Meeting

Explorer section report

14th Bromley Trustee Board annual general meeting (2024–25)

It's been another busy year for the 14th Bromley Explorer unit. I'm pleased to say that we have 32 explorers registered and we continue to have a strong weekly meeting with approximately 18 to 20 Explorers turning up on a regular basis.

We remain supported by four full-time leaders, one team leader and three team members. We also continue to count on the regular support of three regular helpers. Unfortunately, one of the regular helpers will be stepping down as we start the new term in September 2025.

Autumn Term

First week back for the term we went to laser tag, which is always thoroughly enjoyed by all of the Explorers. The following week we did a fashion night where they all had to spend £5 on some fancy dress costume and we then had the judges to see who had the best costumes.

The following week we had a cooking skills night teaching them how to use the gas bottles, how to use the gas cookers, hooking them up and taking them off the gas bottles, as well as basic cooking skills. This is always an enjoyable evening and we always run it with a competition to see who has come up with the best dish as they work in teams.

The following week we did a night hike orienteering race at Pratts bottom deep in the countryside. They were set off in teams of 4 with a small time gap between them and to practice their night navigation skills round a 2 mile course. This was a great evening and we had two teams complete the route and two teams that didn't. This has highlighted some gaps in their navigation which we will work on in the spring time in 2025.

The following evenings we did pumpkin carving which again is always enjoyed and we had some amazing creations.

The next week we went down to Cudham Shaws campsite and we did wide games in the dark. Again it's another night that they all really enjoy and it's good to get them out in the countryside in the dark playing lots of good old scout games.

The next week they went rock climbing at The Reach. This is always well attended and it's a very fun evening for everyone and again very well attended.

We then ran our winter camp. However storm Bertie was in full force and so we were unable to run the overnight camp, however, we did a risk assessment and deemed it okay to run the day part of the event in gale force winds and driving rain. We did fire lighting skills and we divide them into three teams and took them completely back to basics. How to find Wood, how to chop wood, how to saw the wood and then how to build a fire. We had quite a small group and 4 leaders so we had really good ratio to explorers so we could really teach them some great skills. And despite the driving rain and the wind each team manage to get their fires to light. They were wet through to the bone by the end of the day but warm and happy.

We then went ice-skating at Ruxley Manor, which is another great evening. We also invested several Explorers on the ice rink which is always good fun. We formed a circle on the ice rink and it was quite a spectacle. We always enjoy invest in our Explorers in different locations.

The last night of the term was spent making Christmas decorations and having a Christmas themed evening. They got wine bottles and decorated them with napkins and we put LED lights inside which makes a great centerpiece for the table. Christmas jumpers, food, music and some games

Spring Term

Returning back in January 2025 we had another varied program which included building the tallest tower which was a great team building and team bonding event as well as problem-solving. It's amazing how many different ways that are to achieve the same thing and how people think differently.

We then did a night hike to teach orienteering skills which always goes down well and the Explorers always love to get out into the countryside at night. It's a very different environment for them.

The next week we had a pioneering evening making it fun by making rope stretchers and chairs so that they learn the knots in a fun and productive way.

We had the legendary hunted evening which all the explorers really enjoyed. This involves in placing them in two different locations in the countryside and then they have to make their way from one point to another are using their map reading skills without getting caught by the leaders. It's always an extremely fun evening.

We also entered the Scouts of steel assault course and one of our teams managed to come third, which was a fantastic result considering how many teams there were competing.

We had a very good turnout for St George's Day all of them enjoying the events that were there for them. This was the districts largest ever event and ran smoothly thanks to the improved logistics and sunny weather.

Summer Term

Summertime 2025 started off with a scavenger hunt which is always a very well attended evening and the Explorers really love this type of event. We had one team that was able to find all the 30 things on the list in the evening which was a great effort.

As Explorers they do enjoy a fire and so we often get them to make a fire and then they had to make their burgers from scratch, mix and all the ingredients together and then cook them. Always a great evening they love cooking and they love making a fire.

Something slightly different we did a tube station fancy dress where they all had to dress up in different stations and then the group had to work out which tube stations they represented. A very fun evening.

First aid is always an important evening to run and we were very lucky to have a local GP come down and run the first aid evening to include CPR. Unfortunately, this wasn't that well attended but they all got to practice their skills.

We did another night Hike, as we were preparing for moonwalk. We entered three teams into moonwalk which was a very strong Showing and we were one of the Explorer units with the most teams there. It's a fantastic evening and all of the Explorers love going to this event. They start at 10 o'clock at night and then go all the way through to 4 in the morning trying to get to as many bases as possible and then completing challenges at each base to earn points.

We then did air rifle shooting, which is another well loved activity and we also managed to have an intergroup competition with the 15th Bromley. This was a great opportunity to meet other Explorer scout in the evening went really well.

Finally, we had our summer camp and we went to the Peak District. We had a very large group of 22 Explorers supported by 4 Leaders and one occasional helper.

The camp was a great success. We were in a fantastic location and they managed to do some really exciting activities such as caving, rock climbing and abseiling. We did a cycle round ladybower reservoir which is where the dambusters used to practice ready for their mission.

Paul Musk

Team leader 14 Bromley Explorer group

