



# 22<sup>nd</sup> Oxford Sea Scout Group Annual Report

## List of Trustees

Group Chair	Phil Doubtfire
Group Treasurer	Kate Stilborn
Group Lead Volunteer	Lorraine Crowther
Appointed Trustees	Paul Crowther Viju Jayadevan Stephen Harness Andy Mainprize Simon Parfitt

## Objectives

The charitable objective of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Oxford Sea Scout Group 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.

## Membership

Our membership numbers have continued to decline since 2020. This is primarily as a result of our chronic shortage of leaders meaning we cannot sustain larger sections (36 adult volunteers in 2020 compared to 20 in Jan 2025). Numbers of Young People across our sections, as taken in our annual census (date 31<sup>st</sup> January each year) are shown in the table below. There are currently 145 Young People aged 6–14 on the group waiting list, and an additional 23 who are not yet 6. Pleasingly, we are now in the situation where almost all Beaver-aged children on the waiting list are offered a space in one of our Colonies, but opportunities in older sections are few and far between, relying on existing members dropping out.

We have continued to struggle with a lack of adult volunteers. However, we now have a healthy number of volunteers at Thursday Scouts, and plan to expand the size of this section accordingly. This includes two students from Oxford University who both volunteer 'at home' outside university term time. The recent introduction of the new national membership system has enabled us to advertise volunteering vacancies easily, and this has resulted in the recruitment of two new volunteers at Tuesday Scouts and two at Tuesday Beavers. We are thrilled that this has been successful and are already seeing the huge positive impact this is having on these sections. The presence of new volunteers across a number of sections is hoped to reduce

the demand on the Group Leadership Team's weekly presence at most section meetings. However, we are still in need of new volunteers at Thursday Beavers and Wednesday Cubs.

We continue to maintain good relationships with Wanderers ESSU, our partnership Explorer Unit. The group benefits from this relationship with a supply of Young Leaders, and having an Explorer Unit linked to the 22<sup>nd</sup> Oxford ensures continuity of experience for our leaving Scouts.

The Trustees plan to work on engaging with the Group's parent/guardian body more effectively in the coming year, particularly with ad hoc help with premises maintenance etc.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
<b>Nemo (Tuesday) Beaver Colony</b>	14	13	18	19	13	14
<b>Neptune (Thursday) Beaver Colony</b>	18	19	11	12	10	13
<b>Kotick (Monday) Cub Pack</b>	21	19	14	17	19	12
<b>Keego (Wednesday) Cub Pack</b>	32	23	23	22	16	17
<b>Mercury (Tuesday) Scout Troop</b>	24	19	21	20	17	16
<b>Goliath (Thursday) Scout Troop</b>	28	31	29	19	19	20
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>92</b>

## Activities

All sections were busy with exciting programmes throughout 2024, although a few sessions early in the year had to be cancelled due to flooding of the Thames at the HQ. Notwithstanding that, sections have done activities and covered badges including baking, air activities, science, nautical skills, international night, photography, fire safety, disability awareness, archery, gardening, knots, fencing, climbing, navigation, debating, night hikes, water safety, and of course plenty of water activities. Whilst the Group is well-equipped for water activities, we continue to struggle with a shortage of permit holders, meaning a small team of instructors are working hard to cover as many sections as possible. We are grateful to Anthony Morris (District Lead Volunteer) and Ian Shortman (GLV at 1<sup>st</sup> Clifton Hampden and Burcot) for their support. We have recently recovered our second gig hull from storage, and hope to get this back on the water in the future too.

We had a number of camps and sleepovers, including a weekend Spring Camp for Tuesday Scouts, a summer camp at the HQ for Thursday Scouts including a trip to Youlbury, and an ocean-themed sleepover for Beavers! All sections (and Wanderers ESU) also joined the District Camp in Youlbury – a fantastic weekend and the first opportunity in many years for the whole group to be on camp together. A particular highlight was seeing members of the group from 6 to 70 years old eating together in the mess tent.

A number of our Young People achieved their Chief Scout's Awards and were invited to the County Awards Ceremony to share in a wonderful day of celebration and activities with their families. We were also very proud to support an Explorer from Wanderers achieve their King's Scout Award.

We thank all leaders for organising and delivering these activities, as well as parents who support sections with their time.

## Other Group Updates

We ran our annual Fireworks event in November. It was wonderful to see so many local people in attendance to support the group. We also provided camping, parking and food for rowers, umpires and other visitors for the Oxford City Royal Rowing Regatta, strengthening our links with our riverbank neighbours the City of Oxford Rowing Club. This is a vital fundraising event for the group, and we have many regular campers who have been coming for a number of years. Thanks to Paul and Lorraine Crowther for being the driving force behind both these events, and to all those members of the group who helped. The Trustees are embarking on a programme of building works and maintenance around the premises. We hope to have new garage doors installed very shortly, as well as a much-needed replacement of the boatshed rolling shutter. Our five-yearly fixed electrical testing has recently been completed and we intend to upgrade our fire alarm system in the coming year as well. These works should ensure we continue to run a safe premises for Scouting activities. Thanks to Paul Crowther and Andy Mainprize for their continued hard work in keeping our premises running.

Andrew T. Frawley

Cubs Team Leader

On behalf of the Trustee Board of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Oxford Sea Scout Group

## 22<sup>nd</sup> Oxford Sea Scouts Financial Statements and Treasurer's Report for Financial Year January to December 2024

This report summarises the accounts produced for the Financial Year Jan - Dec 2024 and should be read alongside the accounts summary below.

Total income from subscriptions, payments for activities and trips, hires, donations and fundraising was £29,852 compared to £28,461 in 2023. Total expenditure in 2024 was £26,323 compared to £26,660 in 2023. Net income was £3,528 compared to £1,800 in the prior year.

	2024	2023
<b>Income</b>		
Activity Equipment	30.00	95.00
Bank Interest	76.53	47.96
Donation	3,397.35	690.00
Events	4,142.50	6,881.61
Events - Cubs	630.00	1,399.00
Fundraising	1,973.26	2,318.02
Hires	5,379.00	3,844.00
Membership Fees	14,078.74	12,939.81
Sundry	102.75	245.55
Venue Maintenance	42.00	0.00
<b>Expense</b>		
Activity Equipment	3,439.69	5,017.08
Admin	831.67	611.29
Badges	725.92	1,034.36
Bank Fees	0.00	61.74
Camping Equipment	0.00	56.88
Events	5,566.88	2,573.90
Events - Cubs	322.38	2,320.93
Insurance	3,448.05	3,249.13
Licences	585.50	574.29
Meetings	17.65	360.71
Membership Costs	6,461.24	6,653.56
Rates	181.05	182.18
Rent	478.20	478.20
Sundry	101.94	281.85
Training	0.00	325.00
Utilities	2,783.18	50.75
Venue Maintenance	1,380.16	2,828.99
<b>Summary</b>		
Total income	29,852.13	28,460.95
Total expenditure	26,323.51	26,660.84
<b>Net income</b>	<b>3,528.62</b>	<b>1,800.11</b>

## Cash Held at Year End

The audited accounts are a roll-up of eight bank accounts: Group Current, Group Saver, Group Camp, Beavers, two Cubs accounts (Keego and Kotick) and two Scouts accounts (Goliath and Mercury).

At year end the accounts held £3,529 more cash than the previous year.

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Account balances</b>		
22nd Oxford Sea Scouts	59,030.30	54,760.59
22nd Oxford Beaver Scouts	1,746.14	2,389.69
Group Saver	5,163.01	5,086.48
Goliath	2,263.10	1,883.04
Camp	743.84	743.84
Kotick	5,019.28	5,465.84
Mercury	2,341.28	2,316.16
Keego	5,402.35	5,535.04
<b>Summary</b>		
Account balance brought forward	78,180.68	76,380.57
Total income	29,852.13	28,460.95
Total expenditure	26,323.51	26,660.84
Net income	3,528.62	1,800.11
Account balance carried forward	<b>81,709.30</b>	<b>78,180.68</b>

## Thanks

Thank you to all the section leaders for collating all the financial data, scanning receipts, shopping prudently and keeping accurate records.

Thanks also to Dave Northover for his support and time as our external auditor.

Kate Stilborn

Treasurer, 22<sup>nd</sup> Oxford Sea Scout Group

Annual Report, Financial Statements and Accounts approved  
at the Annual General Meeting of the Group Scout Council,  
20<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Signed: Lorraine Crowther, Group Lead Volunteer & Trustee

## Independent examiner's report to the trustees of 22<sup>nd</sup> Oxford Sea Scouts Scout Council

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Oxford Sea Scouts for the year ended Dec 31<sup>st</sup> 2024.

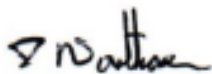
### Independent examiner's statement

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 22<sup>nd</sup> Oxford Sea Scouts 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 to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Name: Dave Northover

Address: 1 Bodley Road, Littlemore, Oxford, OX4 3UB

Date: 11th September 2025