



Scouts

8th/14th Epsom Air Scouts

(St Barnabas and St Joseph's)

AIR SCOUT GROUP

2025

Annual Report

8th/14th Epsom (St. Barnabas and St. Joseph's) AIR SCOUT GROUP Royal Air Force Recognised Unit No. 5

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Group Lead Volunteer: Luke Jennings Email: gs@epsomairscouts.org

Joint Presidents: HRH Princess of Wales and HRH The Duke of Kent. **Founder:** Robert Baden-Powell OM. **Chief Scout:** Dwyne Fields

Patron HRH King Charles III. Incorporated by Royal Charter. Registered Charity 305716





THE CONTENTS

The Group Prayer	2		
The Group's Details	3		
The Scout Association	4		
The Scout Law	5		
Our Group Structure	6		
The Team	7	1. Volunteers	7
		2. The Trustees' Board	7
		3. Friends	7
Reports	8		
		1. Group Lead Volunteer	8
		2. Beaver Scout Lead Volunteer	13
		3. Cub Scout Lead Volunteer	18
		4. Scout Lead Volunteer	22
		5. Explorer Scout Lead Volunteer	28
		6. 100 Club	33
		8. Chronology	34
		9. A Financial Overview	35
Examined Accounts	37		



Front Cover – Scouts, camping near Corfe Castle, enjoy the sunshine.





THE GROUP PRAYER

Almighty God, who has joined us together
in the fellowship of this Group,
help us to think fairly, do things bravely,
act kindly and to live cleanly.
Bless us in body and soul and give us strength
to keep our three-fold promise
so that by the lives we live,
we make the lives of others happy.

Amen





THE GROUP'S DETAILS

Epsom Air Scout Group is a branch of the "Scout Association" formed under Royal Charter. It operates under the Association's "Policy, Organisation and Rules". The Group is a Trust established under its rules that are common to all Groups and Districts. The Group's registration number is 12678.

SCOUT ASSOCIATION HEADQUARTERS:

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GROUP HEADQUARTERS:

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THE SCOUT ASSOCIATION

THE PURPOSE OF SCOUTING

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

THE VALUES OF SCOUTING

As Scouts, we are guided by these values:

- Integrity - We act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy, and loyal.
- Respect - We have self-respect and respect for others.
- Care - We support others and take care of the world in which we live.
- Belief - We explore our faiths, beliefs, and attitudes.
- Cooperation - We make a positive difference; we cooperate with others and make friends.

THE SCOUT METHOD

Scouting takes place when young people, in partnership with adults, work together based on the values of Scouting and:

- Enjoy what they are doing and have fun;
- Take part in activities indoors and outdoors;
- Learn by doing;
- Share in spiritual reflection;
- Take responsibility and make choices;
- Undertake new and challenging activities; and
- Make and live by their Promise.

THE SCOUT PROMISE

On my honour, I promise that I will do my best to do my duty to God (to uphold Scout values) and to the King (the country in which I now live), to help other people and to keep the Scout Law.





THE SCOUT LAW

- 1 - A Scout is to be trusted.
- 2 - A Scout is loyal.
- 3 - A Scout is friendly and considerate.
- 4 - A Scout belongs to the worldwide family of Scouts.
- 5 - A Scout has courage in all difficulties.
- 6 - A Scout makes good use of time and is careful of possessions and property.
- 7 - A Scout has self-respect and respect for others.

The Group admits members primarily from Epsom although some members come from further afield, particularly where there is no other Air Scout Group available. Although a small subscription is charged for membership, this covers no more than the immediate running costs of the Group and at less than £150 does not unduly restrict membership. The Group endeavours to obtain grants for those who could not otherwise afford to take part.





OUR GROUP STRUCTURE

The Group has responsibility for four youth Sections divided by age. In rising order, they are the Beaver Scouts, the Cub Scouts, the Scouts and the Explorer Scouts. Each Section has an adult Lead Volunteer, and they have other Volunteers. Each Section runs its own activities and keeps its own accounts with an appointed treasurer assisting.

A Group Scout Lead Volunteer unifies the four Sections of the Group. He or she is responsible for all activities of the Group.

All interested parties in the Group are entitled to form the Group in Council. These people meet regularly once a year at the Annual General Meeting, and they elect a Trustees' Board to manage the Group. The Group Scout Lead Volunteer appoints the Chair of the Group in Council who also chairs the Board. Fundraising and Group support is organised by this committee in response to the demands placed on it by the Scouters who act in common through a further committee chaired by the Group Scout Lead Volunteer.








THE TEAM

VOLUNTEERS IN THE GROUP

- Group Lead Volunteer
Luke Jennings
- Group Volunteers
Graham Bailey
Howard Park
- Beaver Scout Lead Volunteer
Pippa Del Nevo
- Beaver Scout Volunteers
Elena Sweeney
Adrian Sancroft
Chiara Baldus
Maya Coleby YL
Toby Grant YL
Pheobe Medcalf YL
Daniel Grant YL
Lexie Pearce YL
- Cub Scout Lead Volunteer
Richard Park
- Cub Scout Volunteers
(Pippa Del Nevo)
Alex Duval
(Christian Barnes)
James Merry
Finn Macauley YL
Ziggy Herschel YL
- Scout Lead Volunteer
Paul Dawson
- Scout Volunteers
Caroline Pearce
Liam O'Donohue
(Pippa Del Nevo)
Claudia Hedger
Annabel Jennings
Oliver Hagan
- Explorer Scout Lead Volunteer
Christian Barnes
- Explorer Scout Volunteers
Nina Gumos
Holly Ginn

GROUP TRUSTEES' BOARD

- Ex-Officio
GLV (Luke Jennings) 
GV (Howard Park) 
(Graham Bailey)
- Nominated
BSLV (Pippa Del Nevo) 
CSLV (Richard Park) 
- Chair
Simon Pearce
- Treasurer
Justin Manly
Lindsay Hill-Bennett
John Petersen
Daniel Coleby
- FRIENDS
100 Club (Howard Park)
Troop Helper Richard Denyer (ADC)
Camp Helpers
Theresa Park
Katy Jennings
(Sarah Dawson)
John Mortimer
John Hughes DV
Geoff Whitehead
Canon William Davern
Ewan McGhee
Jayne McGhee
Sundry Sundaran
Teddy Totman
John Flood
(Howard Park)
Christine Turner

Volunteers on the Board are marked 

Where we mention a person more than once, we bracket their name in the lesser or subsequent role.





THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GROUP SCOUT LEAD VOLUNTEER



Luke Jennings

It is always so incredible to see all the wonderful programmes put on by our amazing leadership team. So many badges have been earned with several managing to achieve their Chief Scout's Awards. My congratulations to who achieved these awards.

Beaver Scouts continue to thrive under Pippa's superb leadership and with the addition of Adrian, Elena and Chiara and alongside all the young leaders, it has brought a lot of new energy and support

to the team. This is clearly shown by the strong numbers in our colony.

Many have learnt new skills and there have been visits to Hobbledown, Horton Country Park, Church Parade, Little Acres, activity weekend and overnight camps. A really fun filled year.



Beaver Fun

Akela (Richard) has led our Cub Scout Pack once again and similar to Beaver Scouts this could only happen with the hugely valuable support of the other Leaders and Young Leaders. We continue to see high attendance which is testament to the varied and engaging programme put on week in week out.





The Cub Scouts have taken on many challenges this year. The camps are always a highlight with twenty-six gaining nights away experience. The Christmas Fair was a standout moment, where a lot of food donations and money were raised for the local food bank. A lovely way to end a very busy year.

Our Scout Troop leadership has continued to be managed by Paul and Caroline with support from Pippa as well as welcoming in new leaders Liam, Annabel and Claudia.



Climbing Cub



Church Parade



Flying With John

The Scouts took part in a wide range of Monday night activities, from badgework to outdoor games. Highlights included winning the District Challenge Hike competition, participating in Scoutabout 2024, and an





unforgettable summer camp in Dorset. The summer camp had a very wet start, but they all enjoyed the activities ranging from sea kayaking,



climbing, survival skills and a hike to Corfe Castle. The Troop also attended the Lord Mayor's Show in London, went flying at Redhill Aerodrome and finished the year with a fun bowling trip.

A special thanks goes to Paul for his leadership and his contributions not only within the Troop but also across the wider Group, including his support for the Explorer Scout Section and his commitment to Boidier Hurst as a warden.

Our Explorer Unit was led by Paul in an interim role to ensure the Unit continued to operate but during the year, Christian came forward to take on the Leadership of the Unit. He



fitted in perfectly and has bonded the Unit in a very positive way. Nina and Holly have provided great support to him throughout.

The Explorer Scouts attended Spring camp and the District Challenge Hike and were a close-knit group at summer camp being involved in





many alternative activities for the Scouts including giant paddle boarding, axe throwing and a visit to Monkey World.

Toby Grant gained the Explorer Belt in Sweden and shared his amazing experiences with all Sections in the Group. We hope others will follow suit in the future. Toby and Daniel achieved their one hundred nights away award. This is an amazing undertaking and shows the years of dedication to scouting.

I am especially grateful to our Group Trustees Board, chaired by Simon, for their behind-the-scenes work that keeps the Group running smoothly, which ensures we have the resources and facilities to deliver an excellent programme. Simon has not only led the



Happy Beavers



Working Together

Trustees Board superbly but also driven the kit van to various camps. John, our resident pilot, continues to provide so much flying experience for which we are extremely grateful and our thanks extend to all other members who help with the smooth running of the Group in so many different ways. We continue to make improvements

to the H Q and this can only be achieved with their support. There are so many other helpers behind the scenes including Richard Denyer, Dominic and Sara Dawson, Howard, Theresa and Craig to name but a few alongside all the parent helpers...we could not do it without you all.





**Day of Celebration
and Achievement**

A quick word about Howard. We are incredibly lucky to have Howard as part of our Group. He has a vast Scouting experience, and we look to him for advice in so many ways. We were pleased to see him gain his Silver Wolf last year, the highest award in scouting and while we helped him celebrate it, he has since been invited to a

ceremony at Windsor Castle. Congratulations once again Howard and thanks for all you do.

Our Group is the strongest I have seen it in recent years and it is lovely to see how it is working together across all sections. All Sections are helping each other, working together and camping as one strong Group, which is in line with core Scouting values being there to help and support each other. Thank you all for making the year one to be proud of.

I do urge anyone reading this who would be keen to help get involved in our Group to please get in touch with me or any other Leader.

Luke Jennings
Group Lead Volunteer



On Parade





THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BEAVER SCOUT LEAD VOLUNTEER



Pippa Del Nevo

This year has been filled with fun, friendship, learning, and adventure for our Beaver Scouts.

Who We Are.

The Beaver Colony continues to be an enthusiastic group of twenty-four young people aged six to eight years old. Our adult Volunteers and Young Leaders have worked tirelessly to provide a varied and exciting programme. Elena (Hobby) has continued to be an enthusiastic and dependable team member, and her craft and Forest School skills have

added significantly to the programme. Adrian (Goose) has brought new skills to our section, with his knowledge of navigation and water activities and safety. We are delighted that Phoebe (Robin) has returned to the Colony having supported the Scouts for a term. She is also bringing her Forest School skills to our sessions. Toby (Jay) has



Toby Helps Sow

made the move from Young Leader to Beaver Volunteer, having turned eighteen and he has run several evenings for us, as he works towards his King's Scout Award.

We are supported by our amazing Explorer Young Leaders, Daniel (Hawk) and Lexie (Kiwi), who continue to share their knowledge and experience with the Beaver Scouts. Maya (Wren) joined us to undertake her Duke of Edinburgh volunteering and was a valued member of our team.





This team has enabled us to take part in so many activities together with our fabulous parents who support us as adult helpers. Without them, we would not be able to run them away from the hall and overnights. I also give a huge thank you to all who have accompanied us on visits.

What we do.

This year's programme has been packed with activities designed to help our Beaver Scouts learn fresh skills, have new experiences and to learn about the people and world around them. Here are just a few examples.

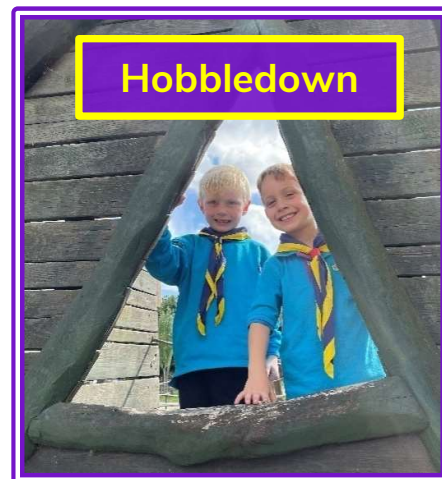


New skills we have learned:

- How to call an ambulance
- How to put someone in the recovery position
- Knots: Highwayman's Hitch, Clove Hitch, Sheet Bend, Reef Knot, Figure of eight, Overhand, Lanyard Knot, Bowline. We are knot masters!
- Planting
- Navigation
- Tracking
- How to put up a tent
- Mini-raft building

Discover the World and People Around Us:

- Learning about our own beliefs and that of others teaches us empathy, understanding and tolerance. We have learned about Chinese New Year, Hinduism, Buddhism and visited St Barnabas Church.
- Experiment (science) badge.
- Visits: Hobbledown (where we can take part in outdoor and adventurous activities), navigating in the local park (and playing





on the swings and slides) and a navigation hike around Horton Country Park.

- Nature: We have learned about birds, made bug hotels, and planted seeds.
- Safety: When using the railway, near water, near roads (Green Cross Code) and in the home.
- Explorer Belt Experiences in Sweden, shared by Toby.
- We attended Remembrance Day Church Parade, with the rest of the Group.

Develop Teamwork and Friendship:

- Games teach us about working as a team, winning, losing and fair play.
- Junk modelling taught us to share resources and help each other.
- 'Log chews' are opportunities for us to put ideas forward, for our Lodge Leaders to represent others and for everyone to listen to each other.

Helping Others:

- The Beaver Scouts made Christmas Decorations to sell at the Cub Scouts' Foodbank Fundraiser and brought in donations for the Foodbank. Our Young Leaders ran the incredibly popular 'Human Fruit Machine' game.
- St George's Day ethos and why it is important to Beaver Scouts and our promise.

Have Fun and Be Active:

- Beavers Go Wild was an overnight Camp (nights away opportunity) with a full programme of activities including zip lines, cave maze, climbing, and many other activities. We also took part in a huge campfire.
- Our Little Acres evening involved a bug hunt, campfire, s'mores, and bubbles.





- Eight of our Beaver Scouts took part in Reach for the Stars, an online activity weekend, gaining many badges.

These are just some of the badges our Beaver Scouts have had an opportunity to earn.



Experiment



Safety



Book Reader



Builder



Air Activities



Navigation



Nights Away



Emergency Aid

Over thirty-five Challenge Badges have been awarded this year.



Earth Tribe Badge

We are particularly proud of Emilia, who, for her Personal Challenge, is litter picking in the alleyway on her way to and from Beavers. She collects a huge amount of rubbish every week and is truly living up to her promise to 'love our world' as she makes our community a nicer place in which to live. We are immensely proud that she





has also earned her Earth Tribe badge, the first we have awarded, sharing her actions with the Colony.



Chief Scout's
Bronze Award

Three of our Beaver Scouts have earned their Chief Scout's Bronze Award; congratulations to Ben, Yoani and Ellis. We have more to come, very soon, in the next reporting year. The Bronze Award only comes with regular attendance at our Wednesday meetings and undertaking additional badgework at home. We are enormously proud of all those who achieve it. It is the highest award a Beaver can get.

Next year will be equally as exciting. As I write this, we are planning our first full Group Camp with the Beaver



Scouts staying for one night. This will be followed by our triennial Surrey Scout event, Bazzaz and many other exciting adventures yet to be planned. We are always ready to welcome new

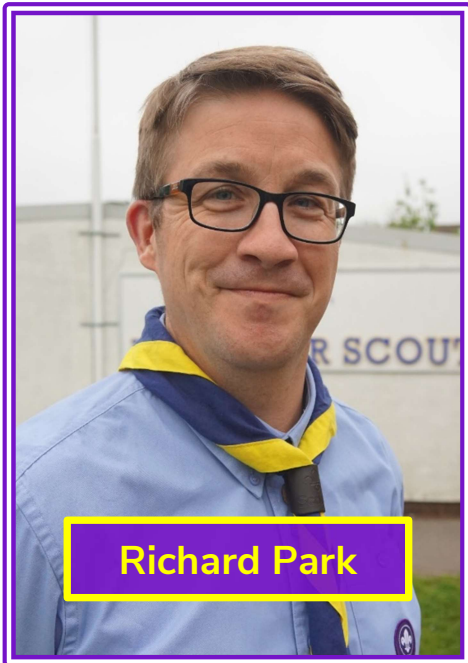
adults to the leadership team; regular or occasional volunteers will be warmly welcomed!

Pippa Del Nevo
Beaver Scout Lead Volunteer





THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CUB SCOUT LEAD VOLUNTEER



Richard Park

As the Akela of the 8th/14th Epsom Cub Scout Pack, it has been a privilege to watch our young people grow and thrive over the past two years. This year has been particularly meaningful as I start to see the Cub Scouts I invested begin their journey into the Scout Section - a true testament to the strength of our programme and the supportive environment we have built.

What makes our Pack special is the spirit of teamwork, growth, and genuine community. Each Wednesday night, we are buzzing with activities, from night hikes to fire-lighting, to board games, to traditional badge work. The Cub Scouts always step up, showing enthusiasm, creativity, and a real desire to learn.

Some of the highlights include:

- Last summer, Christian (Chil) organised a fantastic Athletics Badge session, where the Cub Scouts threw themselves, sometimes literally, into a range of sports and physical challenges. We also managed to get out and enjoy the new outdoor space on offer at Little Acres in Horton Country Park.
- In February, we seized a rare and exciting opportunity when seven planets aligned in the night sky. We headed outside for an evening of planet spotting, learning about the solar system and the wonders above us.



Investiture





- We are especially proud that every single Cub in the pack achieved their First Response Badge this year, a fantastic accomplishment. From learning how to deal with cuts and burns, to understanding how to respond in an emergency, the Cub Scouts gained vital life skills that could one day make a real difference.
- We visited St Barnabas Church, where the vicar warmly welcomed them. He shared the powerful story of the Ten Lepers, highlighting the importance of gratitude and kindness. The Cubs absolutely loved it, especially when they got to dress up in toilet rolls to re-enact the story! It was both hilarious and thought-provoking, and it gave the young people a chance to connect with the deeper values we try to instil in everything we do.
- The real highlight, however, of the year was our Christmas Fair, where our Cub Scouts, supported by the Beaver Scouts and Young Leaders, raised over eight hundred pounds and donated it along with twelve crates of food to the local food bank. Their compassion and efforts were inspiring, and a proud reminder of the positive impact Scouting has far beyond our meeting hall.
- Away from the hall we have also continued to make incredible memories outdoors. Our spring camp at Polyapes might have come with a bit more rain and



Polyapes Camp





chill than hoped, but it did not dampen our spirits. The Cub Scouts loved every second, from dirt cars and backwoods cooking to classic campfire songs and stories.

- Nineteen Cub Scouts attended the Surrey Scouts Cubs Cause Chaos event at Bentley Copse. They were able to take part in climbing, abseiling, zip-wire, cave maze, and shooting amongst many other activities. They camped for two nights. A huge thanks to the adult team of Volunteers and parents who made this event possible.
- In total twenty-six Cub Scouts gained 'Nights Away' experience this year.
- Three Chief Scout's Silver Awards have been made this year; congratulations to Lauren, Ashley and William.



Behind the scenes, I am incredibly

fortunate to be supported by an exceptional team of volunteers. Pippa



(Baloo) keeps everything running smoothly with her meticulous organisation, from risk assessments to badge records. Her hard work is the backbone of our pack. Christian (Chil) brings boundless energy and experience, even

though he is now also leading the Explorer Scout Section. And Shere Khan (James), a seasoned Scouting legend, continues to lend his





wisdom and hands-on help when time allows as well as Alex (Carr) who still lends a hand as an occasional Volunteer who took the lead in organising some of the skills required for the DIY badge.

We are proud to have maintained strong numbers. We have over thirty Cub Scouts regularly attending and a growing waiting list and it is all thanks to the tireless efforts of our Volunteers and the support of our wider Scouting family.

That said, we are always on the lookout for new Volunteers! Even just one evening a month can make an enormous difference. Whether you are a parent, former Scout, or just someone who wants to make a positive impact, there is a place for you here at Concorde Hall.



Here's to another year of adventure, learning, laughter, and growth. The future of the 8th/14th Epsom Cub Scout Pack looks bright, and I could not be prouder to be part of it.

Richard Park (Akela),
Cub Scout Lead Volunteer
8th/14th Epsom Cubs 🐾🐾





THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SCOUT LEAD VOLUNTEER



For Volunteers many of the events we undertake over the course of the year, including Monday nights, camps and day trips are things that we have done many times before. What is different is doing them with another set of Scouts and that is what makes it inspiring and always motivating!

This year was another fantastic period for the Scout Troop, and we started by celebrating winning the District Challenge Hike. Well done to Yu Cheng, Logan and Liam.

In April, the Troop joined the Cub Scouts and Explorer Scouts at Polyapes camp site for our spring weekend under canvas. It was wonderful to be operating alongside the other Sections of the Group. The weather was kind, the morale was excellent and all who attended had a wonderful time.

At the start of the year the Troop had thirty-two Scouts, and our average Monday night turnout was twenty-four, so attendance levels were decent, and their behaviour excellent. Our Monday night activities consisted of badge work, learning, teamwork and of course having fun. As the summer nights



started it allowed the Troop time away from the Concorde Hall to play rounders and do more activities outdoors.





In June, the Troop attended Scoutabout at Ardingly Show Ground. This is a camp for all Scouts and Guides in Surrey, and it is more of a festival of Scouting than a camp. It is immense fun and very much enjoyed by all.

Summer camp saw us returning to Purbeck Valley Farm in Dorset where the Troop camped in 2019. This time we took sixteen Scouts along with fifteen Explorer Scouts. The trip down was very pleasant but we arrived at a very wet campsite and were challenged erecting the

marquee and the tents in the rain. Sunday morning was much more pleasant and allowed us to dry out and spirits soon rose. The rest of the week was full of activities and adventures most of them run by the Land and



Summer Camp

Wave Activity team. The Scouts went kayaking in the sea at Swanage, tried their hand at giant paddle



Brownsea Island

boards, rock climbed at Dancing Ledge, learnt survival skills in the woods, hiked with Howard to Corfe Castle and, for our day out, travelled to Brownsea Island in Poole Harbour where Scouting began in 1907. For our last

night of camp, we held our usual themed party. This year it was a





'Night at the Oscars', and we were joined by some famous celebrities...and of course some not so famous.



Both the Scout Troop and the Explorer Scouts enjoyed a splendid camp and were very well supported by an excellent leadership team who fed and looked after them all week. My thanks go to the Volunteers.





Camp Cooks



In September, we were joined by new Volunteers. It was a big welcome to Liam who has an enormous amount of Scouting experience and is now very much part of the team. It was also welcome back to Claudia and Annabel. Both had been Scouts in the Troop and the Unit.

Other very welcome recruitments, especially for me, was our new Explorer Lead Volunteer, Christian, and Explorer Volunteer, Nina. Since the summer of 2022, I had stepped in as the Explorer Scout Lead Volunteer to ensure that the Unit did not close. I enjoyed my time as interim Lead Volunteer but running Scouts on Monday and the Unit on Tuesday, then having to fit in a new job and family was taking a lot out of me so I was immensely pleased to hand over the Unit to the new Volunteers who are doing a fantastic job.

In mid-October we took eighteen Scouts



Redhill Flying



flying at Redhill Aerodrome. John, the pilot and Group Trustee, was brilliant at teaching the Scouts how the aircraft flies and





showing them the effects of the controls. We hope to get some more flying in the coming year. Thank you, John.

The Troop programme for the later part of the year saw the Scouts doing first aid and learning how to use a defibrillator, learning to fly planes on simulators, doing some Christmas crafts, and generally having fun. Numbers went up and, by the end of the year, we had thirty-five Scouts in the Troop.



In November we attended the Lord Mayor's Show in London and sold programmes to raise money for the Troop. We did well but just fell short of selling a thousand programmes. Next year we will achieve this target. Do please come and help do this.

Our Christmas outing saw the Troop bowling in Tolworth. All had another enjoyable night.





I look forward to another year of camps and activities and send thanks to our Chairman and Group Executive. The work done over the last year on Concorde Hall has meant that the building looks fantastic. Thank you, Luke, for your guidance and leadership as Lead Volunteer. I also send my thanks to the Scout Volunteer team, Caroline, Liam, Claudia, Annabel and to those that support us especially Howard, Pippa, Sara Dawson and Richard Denyer.

Paul Dawson
Scout Lead Volunteer

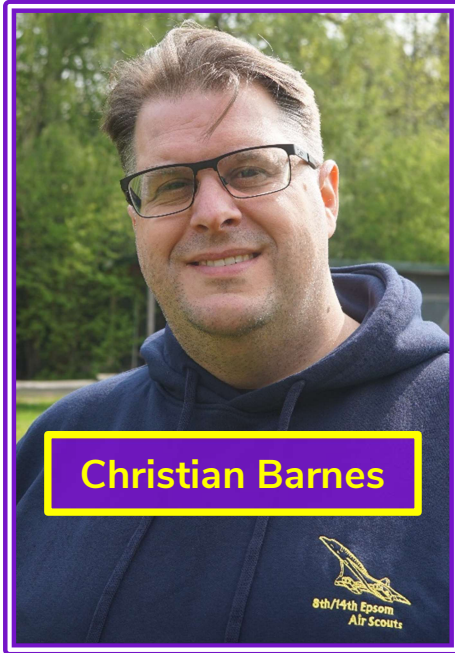


More Summer Camp





THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXPLORER SCOUT LEAD VOLUNTEER



Christian Barnes

This is the first annual report for the Explorer Scout Unit that I am delivering, having taken on the role for the Group from Paul Dawson in September 2024. Young people from the ages fourteen and a half to eighteen can be Explorer Scouts. Our current Explorers have all joined the Unit from the Scout Troop. We currently have fourteen Explorer Scouts. This is down from last year's count of twenty-four due to a large number reaching eighteen in the past twelve months.

Since I started, we have said farewell to Toby Grant (who has continued as a Volunteer in the Beaver Colony), Charlotte Hargreaves, Eleanor Weston and Sean Munro. We wish them all well for the future and thank them for their contribution to the Group over the years they were youth members.

Activity: The Unit meets each week during term time on Tuesday evenings. A key feature of Explorers is that we expect its members to take the lead deciding the direction and the activity of the Unit. This is reflected in the weekly programme that is developed by members of the Unit, with the activity of the weekly



Last Camp for Some





meetings co-ordinated by one or two Explorers each week on a rotational basis.

Our weekly meetings have been filled with open-fire cooking, (we can

say that 'on average' the brownies were probably cooked, although they did range in consistency from liquid through to charcoal!) obstacle courses, Japanese cultural evening, spy evening, pumpkin carving, games night, movie night and meals together at the end of term.



A highlight of the weekly meeting is the sense of community across the Unit. As a Volunteer it is also rewarding seeing the Explorer Scouts demonstrate the skills they have learned while they were Beavers,

Cubs and Scouts with an increased level of proficiency.

For us Explorer Scouts has been a boundless experience, and every meeting an opportunity to gain knowledge, new skills and to enjoy ourselves. We have been fortunate enough to become patrol leaders, and this has helped build our confidence for when we are in charge of a group. We thank Paul, Christian, Nina and Holly for being fantastic Volunteers and helping us with such enlightening and entertaining times.

Lexie Pearce and Alice Tilley, Patrol Leaders for the Explorer Unit

The Explorer Scouts attended the summer camp in Dorset along with the Scout Section. This was an adventurous camp with the Explorers taking part in a variety of outdoor activities including climbing,





coasteering, giant paddle boarding, team building, axe throwing, survival skills and archery. There were also days out to visit Monkey World and a walk to Corfe Castle.



Spring camp was held at Boidier Hurst in April, although numbers were down on account of many of the older Explorer Scouts being in their GCSE years and about to start their examinations. This was a lightweight camp at a familiar site, which makes for a chilled, enjoyable camping experience.

We also had some success in March with the District challenge hike. We entered three teams this year: Logan and Ziggy; Izzy and Lexie; Daniel and Gabe. All were able to finish the course in a

suitable time and gaining full points, with Izzy and Lexie placed third overall in the competition (the difference between the first and third places being mere minutes).

Unfortunately, our attempts to arrange flying days for the Unit at Redhill were scuppered by the one thing we have no control over, the Great British weather! We will get up in the air later this year - thanks to John for his assistance with sorting this out.

Explorer Belt: Congratulations to Toby Grant who gained the Explorer Belt in Sweden, in September 2024. This is a great achievement for Toby, and a first for the Group for thirty years. The Explorer Belt is an award that allows Explorer Scouts from across Surrey to plan and participate in a ten-





day expedition that brings them a real understanding of a different country, its culture and way of life. During the expedition small teams travel around fifteen kilometres a day on a route they have designed with a focus on engaging with communities they encounter on their travels. The 2025 Explorer Belt will take place in Poland. Two of our Explorers, Joseph and Finn, are currently preparing to take on this challenge.

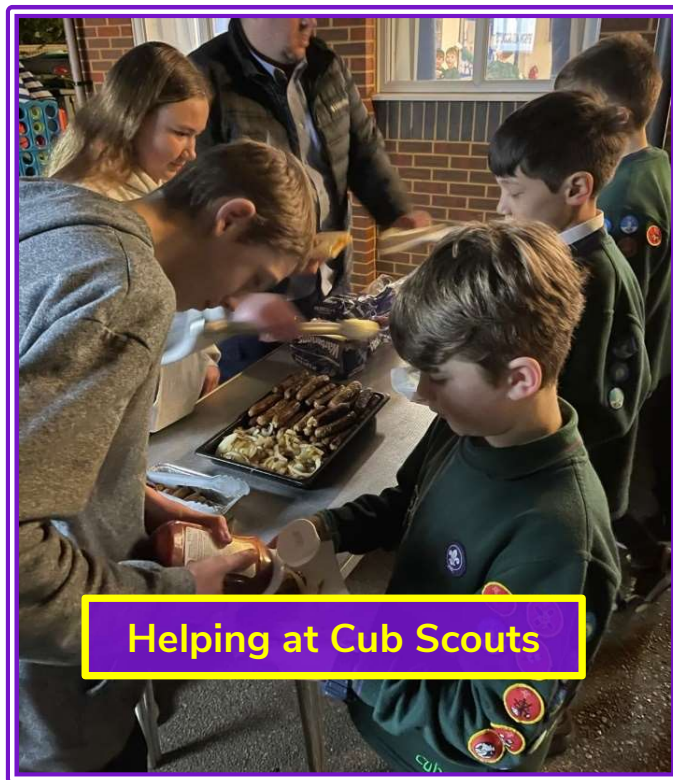
Nights Away: A further impressive achievement during this year was that both Toby and Daniel reached their hundred Nights Away Awards. Well done to them both!

Across the Group: Throughout the year the Explorer Scouts have continued contributing to the Group by engaging with members of the other sections to help at weekly meetings, assisting at camps, and attending events such as the Remembrance Day service at St Barnabas.

As part of the weekly programme and the Explorers' Challenge Awards, members of the Unit have arranged to run meetings for the Cub Scouts and Scout sections. In January, the Explorers from the Alphas patrol held an Australia Day themed evening for the Cub Scouts and the Legends patrol ran a Burns' Night themed evening for the Scouts.

Daniel and Lexie have continued to be Young Leaders with the Beaver Scout Colony and Ziggy, Ewan and Finn have all spent time as helpers with the Cub Scout Pack.

The Explorer Scouts engagement with the Group's Beavers, Cubs and Scouts provides benefit far beyond the assistance they give. While the Explorer Scouts may feel as though they are doing what comes





naturally to them, they certainly set an example and inspire the other young people in the Group (it is fair to say Daniel and Lexie have attained a level of celebrity in the Cub Pack following their involvement at the Cubs Cause Chaos' Camp!).

Also being one of the Cub Scout Volunteers, it is brilliant seeing the



Explorer Scouts providing such excellent help and working so well with the younger sections.

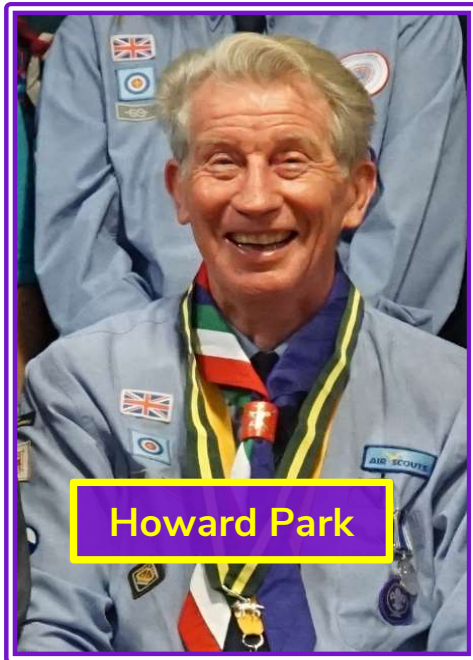
Finally, I would like to thank Luke, Paul, Caroline, Pippa and Dom for the support they have provided during the year while I found my feet in this new role for me. My greatest thanks go to Nina Gumos who also joined as a second Volunteer for the Unit in September last year. I appreciate her giving up her Tuesday evenings to help ensure the continued success of the Unit. It is also great to have Holly Ginn back as a Volunteer until the summer.

Christian Barnes
Explorer Lead Volunteer





THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE 100 CLUB TREASURER



The year started with 41 members holding 95 shares and ended the year with 38 members holding 90 shares. In the year we took in £1,111 and awarded over half this sum of money in prizes (£569). £97 worth of other cheques issued this year have yet to be cashed.

The following members won 100 Club prizes:

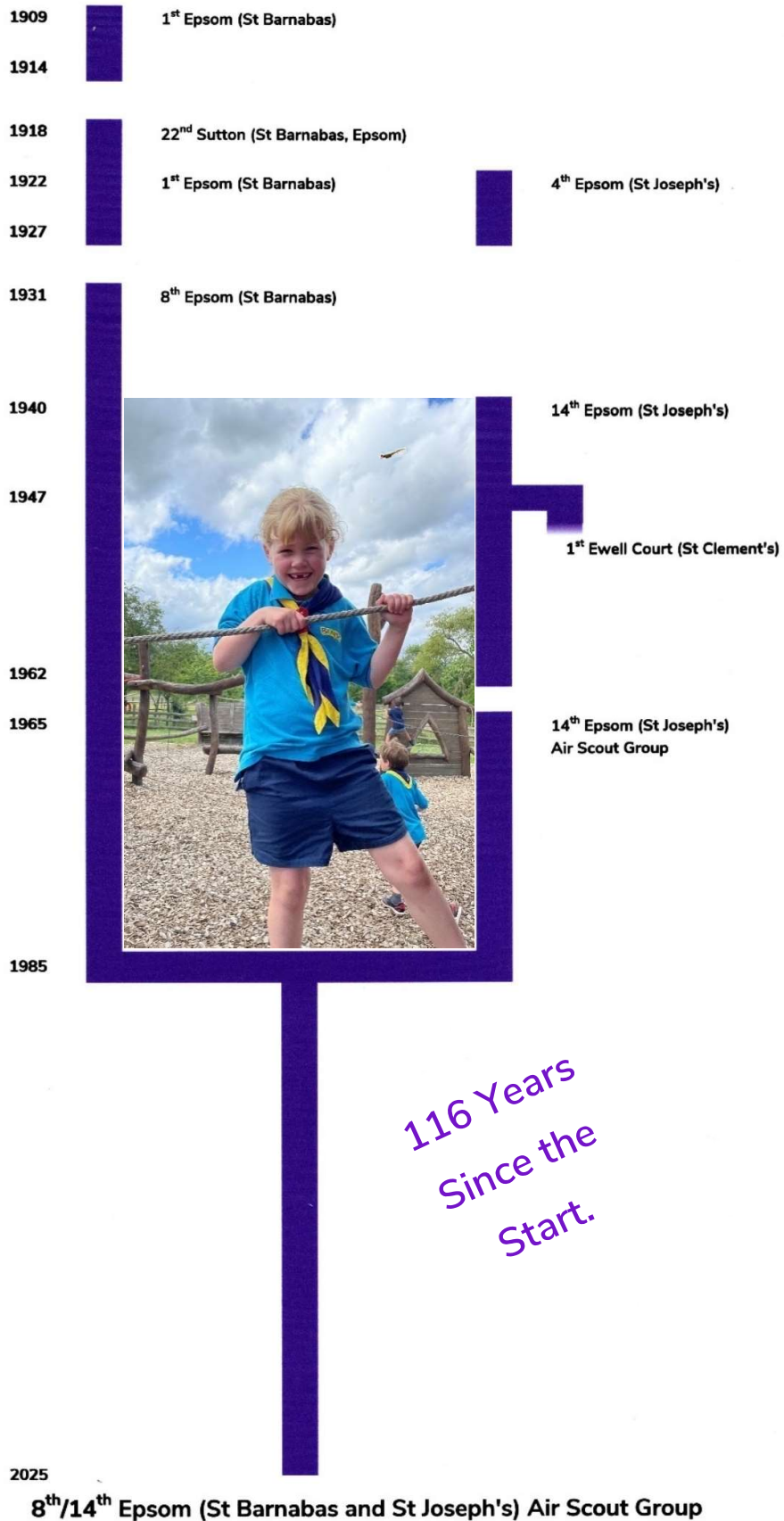
April	W Dawson		
May	Mark Sydenham	David Villa-Clark	Mark Sydenham
June	Pippa Del Nevo	John Mortimer	Simon Pearce
July	John Mortimer		
August	Catherine Allison	C Coventry	Spencer Hannan
September	M Davies	Mark Sydenham	S Pearce
October	Alistaire Spalding		
November	Catherine Allison	Howard Park	Silvia Smart
December	Alistaire Spalding	C Coventry	Howard Park
January	Sara Dawson		
February	David Villa-Clark	Simon Pearce	Jayne McGhee
March	Jayne McGhee	C Coventry	Catherine Allison

Howard Park
100 Club Treasurer





CHRONOLOGY





A FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



Notes:

The Epsom Air Scout Group operates within the framework of the Scout Association, a registered charity.

All trustees are aware of their legal responsibilities and maintain a register of interests. Decisions relating to financial transfers and major expenditures are discussed and documented at trustee meetings.

The Group holds unrestricted reserves equivalent to approximately six months of operating costs to ensure continued financial stability. These reserves are reviewed annually.

In line with Charity Commission requirements, the Group's accounts are independently examined each year to ensure transparency, accuracy, and compliance with the Charities Act 2011.

The Epsom Air Scout Group has an overseeing management structure that is known as the "Group" and it has four "Sections" divided by age, called "Beaver Scouts", "Cub Scouts", "Scouts" and "Explorer Scouts".

The Group has a current account and a deposit account (Active Saver) with Barclays. Each section also holds a Barclay's current account.

The Group also runs a fundraising 100 Club with an account at Lloyds.

In addition, the Group received a bequest of £106,000 in 2016, that caused the Trustees to divide the deposit account to provide protection under the Financial Services Compensation Scheme, originally moving £51k into a CAF account. A further £33k was moved from the Barclays deposit account to the CAF account in FY22/23, to ensure the total amount banked across all Barclays accounts was below the £85k protection limit.





The £106,000 bequest received in 2016 has been designated for future capital expenditure and is held as a designated (unrestricted) fund. The trustees manage these funds in line with financial prudence.

The Scout Association orders a census of the young people in Scouting for the end of January every year and based on this, “Capitation” fees are payable to the centre. The money goes through the Scouting District and the Scouting County before arriving at Headquarters with fees taken at each level. The Group also applies a “Group Levy” for the Group Headquarters (Concorde Hall). Parents pay a membership fee, often referred to as subscription or subs, for their child. This fee is set by their Section Leader, to cover day to day activities, the Group Levy, and the Capitation fee. The money is banked by the Section and then the Capitation and levy is transferred to the Group, for the Group to pass on the Capitation. This means there is the movement of money within the Group without change of monies within the organisation.

In addition, the Group often contribute to Section activity costs, either paying costs directly or contributing into the Section accounts.

The accounts have been drawn together by the Group Treasurer, Justin Manly. Quickbooks has been employed to manage the day-to-day Group accounts.

Quickbooks currently receives feeds from all of the Barclays accounts, though the CAF account, Lloyds (100 Club) account are not currently included. Copies of all receipts relating to Barclays accounts transactions are held within Quickbooks, with the following exceptions:

- Telephone/Internet (Plus Net)
- Electricity (Opus)
- Epsom and Ewell Council (lease payments and rubbish collection)

Note: As these are all direct debit payments initiated by them and they are clear on the statements, we have paid the appropriate fees for these services.

Justin Manly, Treasurer





THE ACCOUNTS

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

to the Trustees of 8th/14th Epsom (St. Barnabas and St. Joseph's) Air Scout Group.

I report on the accounts of the 8th/14th Epsom (St Barnabas and St Joseph's) Air Scout Group for the year ended 31 March 2025 which are set out on the accompanying pages.

This report is made solely to the trustees in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees for my examination work.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Examiner.

The Air Scout Group's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144 of the Charities Act, 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an Independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under Section 145 of the Charities Act)
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act) and
- To state whether matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the financial statements.

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 Charities Act; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act and the Regulations have not been met, or
2. which in my opinion, attention should be drawn to, in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statement to be reached.

20th June 2025

Sundry A. Sundaran ACA, FCCA
Independent Examiner
Brooks & Co
9 Cheam Road
Ewell
Epsom
KT17 1SP





STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

for the year ended 31 March 2025

Income & Expenditure

	Notes	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total FY24/25	FY23/24
Income:					
Activities	5	-	£19,722.35	£19,722.35	£18,537.76
Fundraising	4	-	£5,580.51	£5,580.51	£1,966.46
Donations & Grants	3	-	£20,418.16	£20,418.16	£19,571.16
Bank Interest		-	£721.08	£721.08	£670.81
Membership Fees	2	-	£9,857.73	£9,857.73	£8,034.90
Total Income		-	£56,299.83	£56,299.83	£48,781.09
Direct Charitable Expenditure:					
Miscellaneous	13	-	£3,208.60	£3,208.60	£3,875.31
Water Rates		-	£459.20	£459.20	£603.44
General Rates	12	-	£634.25	£634.25	£600.95
Energy		-	£4,714.10	£4,714.10	£4,245.56
Telephone & Internet		-	£619.26	£619.26	£585.40
Accountancy		-	£2,400.00	£2,400.00	£1,200.00
Building Maintenance and Repairs	14	-	£20,158.80	£20,158.80	£9,952.33
Cleaning		-	£1,025.93	£1,025.93	£1,055.00
Lease	10	-	£182.00	£182.00	£182.00
Bank Charges		-	£272.00	£272.00	£259.51
Insurance	15	-	£339.56	£339.56	£1,457.17
Capitation	2	-	£5,280.00	£5,280.00	£4,477.50
Copyright and Royalties		-	£250.57	£250.57	£241.70
Depreciation		£5,917.00	0	£5,917.00	£5,917.00
		£5,917.00	£39,544.27	£45,461.27	£34,652.87
Other Expenditure:					
Activities	5	-	£26,642.35	£26,642.35	£40,169.50
Fundraising	4	-	£1,395.00	£1,395.00	£1,232.75
		-	£28,037.35	£28,037.35	£41,402.25
Total Expenditure		£5,917.00	£67,581.62	£73,498.62	£76,055.12
Net (expenditure)/income for the year		(£5,917.00)	(£11,281.79)	(£17,198.79)	(£27,274.03)
Transfer between funds		£5,917.00	£5,917.00	-	-
Fund balances brought forward		£0.00	£155,884.73	£155,884.73	£183,158.76
Fund balances carried forward	9	£0.00	£138,685.94	£138,685.94	£155,884.73





BALANCE SHEET

at 31 March 2025

	Notes	FY24/25	FY23/24
Fixed Assets	6	£4,490.29	£10,407.29
Current Assets			
Debtors	7	£477.00	£2,741.10
Cash at bank and in hand	Appendix 1	£135,837.65	£145,130.21
		<u>£136,314.65</u>	<u>£147,871.31</u>
Current Liabilities			
Creditors	8	£2,118.99	£2,393.86
Net current assets		<u>£134,195.66</u>	<u>£145,477.45</u>
Net assets		<u><u>£138,685.95</u></u>	<u><u>£155,884.74</u></u>

represented by

FUNDS

Unrestricted Funds

General purpose fund 9 £138,685.94 £155,884.73

Restricted

Building project 9 - -

£138,685.94

£155,884.73





NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

at 31 March 2025

1. Accounting policies

Accounting convention

In accordance with the Charity Commission guidelines, the accounts have been prepared under a receipts and payments method.

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the costs of each asset evenly over its expected useful life, as follows:

Leasehold Land and Buildings	- over the period of the lease
Fixtures & Fittings	- over seven years

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment, if events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable.

Leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to income on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Cash flow statement.

The Air Scout Group has taken advantage of exemptions under the provisions of Financial Reporting Standard No. 1 (revised) for small companies and not prepared a cash flow statement.

Grants

Grants in respect of capital expenditure are credited to a deferred income account and are released to income over the expected useful lives of the relevant assets by equal annual instalments. Grants of a revenue nature are credited to income to match them with the expenditure to which they relate.

2. Membership

	Capitation	Membership Fees	Net	FY23/24
Beaver Scouts	£1,100.00	£2,225.52	£1,125.52	£769.56
Cub Scouts	£1,760.00	£2,888.73	£1,128.73	£1,111.20
Scouts	£1,650.00	£3,938.15	£2,288.15	£1,694.65
Explorer Scouts	£770.00	£805.33	£35.33	(£18.01)
Capitation Rebate			£0.00	£0.00
Sub Total	£5,280.00	£9,857.73	£4,577.73	£3,557.40
Section Levy	£1,440.00		(£1,440.00)	(£1,350.00)
Recovered Income Tax				
Returned Fees				
	£6,720.00	£9,857.73	£3,137.73	£2,207.40

The Section Levy is an internal charge to the Sections based on an agreed formula to contribute towards the costs for the running of Concorde Hall and other associated Group costs. This internal charge is levied on the Sections at the same time as the collection of Capitation based on the annual census returns. The money for the Section Levy is merely moved from Section bank accounts to the Group bank account.





NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

at 31 March 2025

3. Donations and Grants

	FY24/25	FY23/24
Pre School	£19,268.16	£18,086.16
Other Hall Hire	£1,150.00	£1,445.00
Grants	£0.00	£0.00
Donations	£0.00	£40.00
	£20,418.16	£19,571.16

4. Fundraising

	Organiser's costs	Proceeds	Net	FY23/24
<u>Internal Fundraising</u>				
100 Club	£487.00	£1,111.00	£624.00	£718.00
<u>External Fundraising Group</u>				
Race Night	£0.00	£1,620.58	£1,620.58	£0.00
<u>Scouts/Explorers</u>				
Lord Mayor's Show	£0.00	£1,914.00	£1,914.00	£0.00
Other Fundraising	£0.00	£95.00	£95.00	£0.00
<u>Cub Scouts</u>				
Food Bank Fundraising	£840.00	£839.93	(£0.07)	£0.00
Other Donations	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£15.71
Adjustment from FY23/24	£68.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
	£1,395.00	£5,580.51	£4,253.51	£733.71

Proceeds from Lord Mayor's show includes previous years contribution, where the payment had been delayed, and not declared at the close of FY23/24.





NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

at 31 March 2025

5. Activities

	Organiser's costs	Proceeds	Net	FY23/24
<u>GROUP</u>				
Camps	(£251.08)	£0.00	£251.08	(£3,622.52)
Camps (accrued from previous year)	£2,265.10	£0.00	(£2,265.10)	(£9,212.50)
Activities	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	(£455.00)
<u>BEAVER SCOUTS</u>				
Camps	£701.07	£203.10	(£497.97)	(£639.00)
Camps (accrued from previous year)	£376.00	£1,036.17	£660.17	£0.00
Activities	£834.77	73.32	(£761.45)	(£1,555.74)
<u>CUB SCOUTS</u>				
Camps	£1,541.46	£1,102.28	(£439.18)	£442.98
Camps (accrued from previous year)	£0.00	£361.20	£361.20	£0.00
Activities	£1,362.65	£0.00	(£1,362.65)	(£746.80)
<u>SCOUTS</u>				
Camps	£13,014.56	£9,008.31	(£4,006.25)	(£3,013.24)
Camps (accrued from previous year)	£100.00	£618.88	£518.88	£958.79
Activities	£1,356.34	£457.90	(£898.44)	(£1,248.69)
<u>EXPLORER SCOUTS</u>				
Camps	£4,663.94	£6,086.44	£1,422.50	(£2,052.14)
Camps (accrued from previous year)	£0.00	£377.61	£377.61	£0.00
Activities	£677.54	£397.14	(£280.40)	(£487.88)
	£26,642.35	£19,722.35	(£6,920.00)	(£21,631.74)
Accrued Activities				
	Organiser's costs	Proceeds	Net	FY23/24
<u>GROUP</u>				
Camps	£125.00	£0.00	(£125.00)	(£2,265.10)
<u>EXPLORERS</u>				
Camps	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£377.61
<u>SCOUTS</u>				
Camps	£250.00	£0.00	(£250.00)	£518.88
<u>CUBS</u>				
Camps	£102.00	£478.83	£376.83	£361.20
<u>BEAVERS</u>				
Day trips	£0.00	£440.16	£440.16	£660.17
	£477.00	£918.99	£441.99	(£347.24)

Scouts Organiser's Costs for Camps appear high as they also include some costs incurred for Explorers Camps. These costs are balanced in the following Financial Year and will be reflected accordingly





NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

at 31 March 2025

6. Tangible Assets

	Leasehold buildings	Fixtures & Fittings	Total
Cost:			
At 1 April 2024	£145,070.29	£23,332.93	£168,403.22
Depreciation:			
At 1 April 2024	£134,663.00	£23,332.93	£157,995.93
Charge for the year	£5,917.00	£0.00	£5,917.00
At 31 March 2025	£140,580.00	£23,332.93	£163,912.93
Net book amount:			
At 31 March 2025	£4,490.29	£0.00	£4,490.29
At 1 April 2024	£10,407.29	£0.00	£10,407.29

7. Debtors

	FY24/25	FY23/24
Payments and accrued income	£477.00	£2,741.10

8. Creditors

amounts falling due within the one year.

	FY24/25	FY23/24
Accruals and deferred income	£2,118.99	£2,393.86

9. Summary of Net Assets by Funds

	Unrestricted Funds General Purpose	Restricted Funds Building Project	Total
Fixed Assets	£4,490.29	£0.00	£4,490.29
Net Current Assets	£134,195.66	£0.00	£134,195.66
Net Assets	£138,685.95	£0.00	£138,685.95





NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

at 31 March 2025

10. Other Financial Commitments

At 31 March 2025, the charity had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as set out below:

	Land and Buildings	
	FY24/25	FY23/24
Operating leases which expire more than five years	£182.00	£182.00

11. Trustee Expenses

There were no Trustee expenses during the year ended 31 March 2025 (2024: £ nil).

12. General Rates

General Rates include:

- An annual payment to Epsom & Ewell Borough Council for refuse collection.
- An annual payment to Epsom & Ewell Borough Council for garden waste recycling services.

13. Miscellaneous

Miscellaneous costs include all general expenditure incurred to maintain the operational upkeep of the Group headquarters, including but not limited to:

- Security contract
- Fire safety equipment and checks.
- First aid equipment *
- Office materials
- Printing.

14. Building Maintenance & Repairs

In FY24/25 the Group invested significantly in a number of essential renovations on the Group headquarters. These works included:

- Paving around Concorde Hall
- Moving the flagpole at Concorde Hall
- Rendering the Concorde Hall store
- Renewing the flooring of Concorde Hall
- Replacing the signage at Concorde Hall

15. Insurance

Due to the timing of the payment of the building insurance falling outside the FY24/25 period, the annual premium cost is not included in the FY24/25 accounts. This cost will be reflected accordingly in the FY25/26 accounts.





YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Bank and Cash

Appendix 1

		FY24/25	FY23/24
<u>GROUP</u>			
Current account	Barclays	£1,658.47	£11,188.96
Savings account	Barclays	£34,559.96	£40,271.04
CAF account	CAF Bank	£84,002.00	£83,894.15
<u>BEAVERS</u>			
Current account	Barclays	£3,575.23	£2,072.43
<u>CUB</u>			
Current account	Barclays	£3,902.78	£2,439.12
<u>SCOUTS</u>			
Current account	Barclays	£2,639.85	£1,464.72
<u>EXPLORER</u>			
Current account	Barclays	£2,271.36	£1,127.79
100 Club			
Current account	Lloyds	£3,228.00	£2,672.00
		£135,837.65	£145,130.21

Justin Manley
Group Treasurer

