EPSOM AIR SCOUTS

ANNUAL REPORT 2026

A Place to Belong

Scouts

8th/14th Epsom Air Scouts

(St Barnabas and St Joseph's)

AIR SCOUT GROUP

2026 Annual Report

A Place to Belong

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

Headquarters: Concorde Hall, Horton Footpath, Horton Hill, Epsom, Surrey, KT19 8SR. No post. Telephone: 01372 742502.

Group Lead Volunteer: Luke Jennings Email: gsl@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 3
The Group's Details 3
The Scout Association 3
The Scout Law 5
The Scout Strategy 6
Our Group Structure 7
The Team 9
1. Volunteers 9
2. The Trustees' Board 9
3. Friends 9
Reports 13
1. Group Lead Volunteer 10
2. Beaver Scout Lead Volunteer 12
3. Cub Scout Lead Volunteer 15
4. Scout Lead Volunteer 17
5. Explorer Scout Lead Volunteer 20
6. 100 Club 24
8 A Financial Overview 25
Examined Accounts 27

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:
Scout Association's Headquarters, Gilwell Park, Bury Road, Chingford, London, E4 7QW. Tel: 08453 001818.

GROUP HEADQUARTERS:
Concorde Hall, The Footpath, Horton Hill, Epsom, KT19 8SR.
Tel: 01372 742502. Web site http://www.epsomairscouts.org.

GROUP CONTACT:
Luke Jennings, 10 Sunnybank, Epsom, KT18 7DX.
01372 721393 or mobile number 07950 335730.

GROUP BANKERS:
Barclays Bank plc. 82 High Street, Epsom, KT19 8BS. Tel: 01372 853000.

Lloyds Bank plc. 64 High Street, Epsom, KT19 8AT. Tel: 01372 743711.
CAF, 25 Kings Hill Ave, Kings Hill, West Malling ME19 4JQ.
Tel: 0300 012 3456.

GROUP INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:
Sundry Sundaran at Atherton Brooks LLP, 9 Cheam Road, Ewell, KT17 1SP.
Telephone 020 8642 8681.

Legal Advisors:
Teddy Totman,
21 St Margaret Drive, Epsom, KT18 7LB. Tel: 01372 739029.
John Flood,
71c Dorking Road, Epsom, KT18 7JU. Tel: 01372 725951.

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 LAW AND PROMISE

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 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 STRATEGY

"**Place to Belong**" is the new UK Scouts strategy to 2035, designed to ensure that Scouting remains a welcoming, inclusive community where young people can find friendship, fun, and develop skills for life in an increasingly unpredictable world. Launched in April 2026, this strategy was shaped by 28,000 voices, including thousands of young people, and focuses on creating a "third place" outside of home and school where youth feel seen, heard, and safe.

Core Vision and Purpose

- Vision 2035: To empower more young people through adventure, teamwork, and shared values to take the lead on making a positive difference in the world.

- Purpose**:** To actively engage and support young people in their personal development, helping them build the skills, character, and confidence to thrive.

Key Strategic Pillars

The strategy is built on two primary pillars:

1. Delivering an Adventurous and Inclusive Programme: Ensuring the program is rooted in the outdoors, filled with adventure, and accessible to every young person.

2. Supporting Volunteers: Ensuring adult leaders feel confident, valued, and equipped to deliver high-quality Scouting.

Key Outcomes by 2035

- A Growing and Inclusive Movement: Welcoming more young people, particularly from underrepresented communities, to reflect the diversity of society.
- Skills for Life and Leadership: Enabling young people to gain essential skills and take the lead in shaping their own Scouting experience.
- Volunteers Who Feel Supported**:** Attracting and retaining volunteers by making the experience rewarding and flexible.

- Stronger, Connected Communities: Fostering a positive, visible role for Scouts in communities, bridging backgrounds.
- A Safe, Sustainable Movement: Maintaining high safety standards and ensuring robust, adaptable, and sustainable structures.

First 3-Year Plan (2026–2029 Focus)
To implement the strategy, the Scouts are launching three-year plans, with the first focusing on:

- Programme: Delivering safe, fun, and relevant activities.
- Volunteering: Improving the volunteer experience.
- Support: Ensuring a sustainable and effective organization.

This strategy follows the 2018–2025 "**Skills for Life**" plan, shifting the focus towards strengthening the feeling of belonging in response to the growing need for in-person community and mental wellbeing support for young people.

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 has its own accounts managed by the Group treasurer.

A Group 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 Lead Volunteer appoints the Chair of the Group in Council who also chairs the Board of Trustees. Fundraising and Group support is organised by this board in response to the demands placed on it by the Volunteer Leaders who act in common through a further committee chaired by the Group Lead Volunteer.

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 we charge a small subscription 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.

THE TEAM

VOLUNTEERS IN THE GROUP

Group Lead Volunteer
- Luke Jennings

Group Volunteers
- Graham Bailey (till 31/12)
- Howard Park

Beaver Scout Lead Volunteer
- Pippa Del Nevo

Beaver Scout Volunteers
- Elena Sweeney
- Adrian Sancroft
- Toby Grant
- Daniel Grant YL
- Lexie Pearce YL
- Maya Coleby YL

Cub Scout Lead Volunteer
- Richard Park

Cub Scout Volunteers
- (Pippa Del Nevo)
- James Merry
- (Christian Barnes)
- Isla Pearce YL
- Keiran Park YL
- Arya Maharjan 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
- Craig Hill
- Holly Ginn till 3/26

GROUP TRUSTEES' BOARD

Ex-Officio

GLV	(Luke Jennings)
GV	(Howard Park)
	(Graham Bailey) till 31/12

Nominated

BSLV	(Pippa Del Nevo)
CSLV	(Richard Park)
ESLV	(Christian Barnes)
Chair	Simon Pearce
Treasurer	Justin Manly
	Lindsay Hill-Bennett
	John Petersen
	Daniel Coleby

FRIENDS

100 Club	(Howard Park)
Troop Helper	Richard Denyer (DV)
Camp Helpers	Theresa Park
	Katy Jennings
	Sarah Dawson
Gift Aid	(Lindsay Hill-Bennett)
Group Friends	John Hughes DV
	Geoff Whitehead
Chaplain	Canon William Davern
Cleaner	Ewan McGhee
Keyholder	Jayne McGhee
Examiner	Sundry Sundaran
Legal Advisors	Teddy Totman
	John Flood
Proof-reader	Christine Turner
Editor	(Howard Park)

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

Another year has passed, and I am once again incredibly proud of all our Group has achieved. The reports from each Section show just how wide a range of activities takes place across the Group.
Our Beaver Scouts have had another impressive year packed with activities, camps, and new experiences. The Group Spring Camp was a highlight and it was wonderful to see the youngest members of our Group camping alongside Cub Scouts, Scouts, and Explorer Scouts. Those who attended Bazzaz had enormous enjoyment and we had a spectacular success in winning the District Swimming Gala, but more importantly, the Beaver Scouts continue to have excitement and pleasure week-in, week-out and form fresh friendships. It is also delightful to see substantial numbers of awards we presented. All of this is only possible thanks to the varied programme put on by Pippa, Elena, Adrian, Toby and all the other leaders and Young Leaders who assist and maintain the Section.

Under Richard and the leadership team, the Cub Scouts have continued to thrive. Their programme has once again combined traditional Scouting skills with exciting new adventures. Highlights included the Spring Camp, night hikes, winning the District Cub Challenge, and the Christmas Fair, which raised money for local charities.

Scouts have had another year with strong attendance and a programme that included a trip to the RAF International Air Tattoo, helping at The Lady Mayor's Show in London as well as more local events. The Spring Camp at Boidier Hurst was an enormous success and is a key theme mentioned across all Sections here as it demonstrates how important it is for our Group working together as one team and with older Scouts and Explorer Scouts inspiring the younger members and providing a sense of belonging.

Numerous events took place throughout the year, but summer camp for the Scouts and Explorer Scouts stood out as one of the most impressive. Activities included flights from the local airfield, kindly arranged by our pilot John Peterson, as well as canoeing, hiking, open-sea yachting, and sleeping in hammocks during the Explorer Scouts' hike.

Christian has continued to strengthen and develop our Explorer Scout Unit, several of whom support the younger Sections of our Group as volunteers. Their involvement across the Group makes a tremendous difference and provides excellent role models for the younger Scouts. The Explorer Scout Unit's participation in the Explorer Belt expedition to Poland was an exceptional achievement and it is great to see even more Explorer Scouts preparing for future expeditions.

One of the greatest strengths of our Group our are volunteers. Week after week they give up their time to plan and run meetings, camps and activities that provide young people with opportunities to gain experience of new skills, challenge themselves and make lasting friendships. I would like to thank all our Section Lead Volunteers, assistant leaders, helpers, Trustees and Young Leaders for everything they have done throughout the year to provide a home for the young people to belong.

Behind the scenes there is also a great deal of work undertaken to ensure the Group continues to operate smoothly. Our Trustee Board works hard managing the administration, finances and upkeep of our headquarters whilst supporting the leaders in delivering Scouting safely and effectively. We are also extremely fortunate to have the continued backing of the people who help maintain the hall, look after the pre-school, assist with camps and events, organise fundraising activities and support the running of the Group in countless other ways. A special mention and thanks must go to Simon Pearce, our Chair, and Howard Park, who both do so much behind the scenes across the Group.

As always, we encourage parents and supporters to get involved with the Group in any way they can, whether by helping at camps and activities, supporting practical projects, joining the Trustee Board, or volunteering more regularly with one of the Sections. We appreciate any additional support, so please get in touch if you would like to find out more.

I hope you enjoy reading the following reports and reading about the activities and achievements from another excellent year of Scouting.

Luke Jennings, Group Lead Volunteer

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BEAVER SCOUT LEAD VOLUNTEER

We have again filled this year with fun, friendship, learning, and adventure for our Beaver Scouts.

Who We Are

The Colony continues to be an enthusiastic group of twenty-four young people aged 6-8 years old. Our adult volunteers and young leaders work hard to provide a varied and exciting programme. Elena (Hobby) and Adrian (Goose) continue to be enthusiastic and dependable team members contributing to the stability and programme of the Section. Toby (Jay) supports the Colony whenever his university studies allow. Our fantastic Explorer Young Leaders, Daniel (Hawk) and Lexie (Kiwi), continue to share their knowledge and experience with the Beaver Scouts, running games and activities on a regular basis.

We appreciate parents' ongoing support at events and at overnights, especially those who joined us at Spring Camp.

What We Do

We have packed this year's programme with activities designed to help our Beaver Scouts learn new skills, have new experiences and to learn about the people and world around them.

An exciting addition to the annual Beaver Scout programme was a Spring Group Camp. The Beaver Scouts camped in the Manley building and took part in a full programme of navigation tasks, wide games, tracking, fire-lighting, problem solving, craft and tug-of-war. We also enjoyed a campfire with the other Sections.

One of the most exciting features of this year's programme was the triennial event organised by Surrey Scouts, Bazzaz. Fifteen Beaver Scouts went to Merrist Wood for a full day of activities, bouncy castles, craft, and fun. By the end of the day we had jumped, climbed, created, raced, bounced, and hopped our way to near exhaustion!

We were delighted by our performance in the Epsom and Ewell District Swimming Gala. We entered two teams and managed to come first and joint second. It was an amazing achievement, and we learned the importance of doing our best and teamwork.

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 knotting masters!
- Planting a Mother's Day bulb.
- Navigation.
- Tracking.
- How to put up a tent.
- Healthy Eating.
- Sewing on a button.
- Our Senior Lodge Leaders learned how to prepare the flag for our meetings.

Discover the World, Universe, and People Around Us:

- Nature: All About Bees with Jayne McGhee.
- Conkers Night – Oscar found the heaviest conker.
- Local History – We enjoyed a visit to Bourne Hall Museum and learned about local history.
- Space Badge – we learned about the solar system, what makes our planet special and the International Space Station and phases of the moon.
- We made poppies and attended Remembrance Day Church Parade, with the rest of the Group. Dylan carried the flag for us.

Develop Teamwork and Friendship:

- Games teach us about working as a team, winning, losing and fair play.
- Lego Nights taught us to share.
- Junk modelling taught us to 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 again this year.
- St George's Day ethos and why it is important to Beaver Scouts and our promise.

Have Fun and Be Active:
- Health and Fitness: we learned what happens to our bodies when we exercise.
- Making our own indoor tunnels.
- Making an egg-drop zip-wire.
- District Ten Pin Bowling Competition – Dylan came 4th.
- District Swimming Gala – first and joint second.

Some of the badges our Beaver Scouts have had an opportunity to earn are the Communicator, Explore, Builder, Hobbies, Collectors, Space, Emergency Aid and Nights Away.

We have awarded over fifty-nine Challenge Badges this year including Adventure, Outdoors, Personal Skills, Team Work and World.

Eleven of our Beaver Scouts earned their Chief Scout Bronze Award; congratulations to Emilia, Harry, Rahul, Benji, Jaimin, Lisa, Dylan, Matthew, Toby, Oscar, and Gala. 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 Scout can get. Recipients can wear this special award until they gain their Chief Scout Silver Award in the Cub Scout Section. We also present them with a special woggle and certificate and get their name on the honour boards in the hall.

Next year will be equally as exciting. As I write this, we are planning our second full Group Camp, with the Beaver Scouts staying for one night and there will be assorted opportunities for other exciting activities.

We are always ready to welcome new adults to the leadership team; we will warmly welcome regular or occasional volunteers!

Pippa Del Nevo, Beaver Scout Lead Volunteer

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CUB SCOUT LEAD VOLUNTEER

It has been another fantastic year for the 8th/14th Cub Scouts, with a full and busy Pack from start to finish. The Cub Scouts have thrown themselves into everything we have offered, and it has been fantastic to see their confidence, skills and teamwork grow as the year has progressed.

We have had a strong programme on Wednesday evenings, with an effective mix of activities. From first aid and emergency response to team challenges and nights led by our Explorer Scouts, there has been plenty to keep everyone engaged. Getting outdoors has remained an enormous focus too, with night hikes over Horton, visits to Little Acres for fire lighting and outdoor skills in the summer, and multiple opportunities for the Cub Scouts to learn by doing.

A highlight earlier in the year was our Pack Camp at Boidier Hurst, where Cub Scouts spent two nights under canvas. They took part in tracking, wide games, and teamwork challenges, and it was magnificent to see them working together, supporting each other, and making the most of the experience.

The outstanding moment of the year must be winning the District Cub Challenge. This is a competition involving Cub Scout Packs from across the District, assessing a range of Scouting skills such as fire lighting, tracking, knotting, teamwork, and our national saints and feast days. One of our Sixes was third, and the Pack won overall. It was a proud moment, not just because of the result, but because of the way the Cub Scouts conducted themselves throughout, showing respect, teamwork, and outstanding spirit.

We have also seen excellent progress in badge work, including gaining a record seven Bronze Awards. This reflects the effort and commitment the Cub Scouts have put in across all areas of the programme.

Our Christmas Fair for the local food bank was once again a terrific success. What makes it special is that the Cub Scouts design and run their own stalls, showing their creativity and initiative. This year we raised seven hundred and seventy-seven pounds and donated fifteen

crates of food to the local food bank, which is something the whole Pack can be proud of.

We also took part in the District Swimming Gala, reaching several finals, and have kept up a steady stream of activities that focus on teamwork, problem-solving and having fun together.

One of the most encouraging things to see has been how many Cub Scouts are now moving up into Scouts, helping to strengthen the Troop. It is a clear sign that the Pack is providing a positive and supportive environment where young people can develop, thrive and feel they belong.

None of this would be possible without the leadership team. Pippa ("Baloo") works tirelessly behind the scenes managing the administration and communication that keeps everything running smoothly. Christian ("Chill") brings a calm approach, great ideas, and a wealth of Scouting knowledge, while James ("Shere Khan") continues to offer his experience and steady support built up over years with the Pack. We are incredibly grateful for everything they do.

We remain committed to being an open and welcoming Pack for all young people, regardless of background or ability. We want every Cub Scout to feel included, valued, and able to succeed in their own way.

It has been a year full of energy, achievement and enjoyment, and we look forward to building on this again next year.

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

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SCOUT LEAD VOLUNTEER

The Troop completed another full year of activities and camps safely. Colleagues at work often ask how I manage to fit Scouting in and what we do each week. I always tell them that no two Mondays are the same: some weeks we have twenty Scouts attending, while on others we have thirty-five. As I draft this report, the Troop has forty-one Scouts on the books, with an average attendance of twenty-six each Monday night over the past year. Membership has grown by ten Scouts this year, and with the current waiting list, it seems likely that numbers will rise again before I author my next report.

So, what do we do on a Monday evening? We plan our programme a term in advance, with each leader taking responsibility for an activity. We shape it around both programme goals and badge requirements, with a strong focus on making learning enjoyable and practical. During the year, for example, we ran sessions on ironing, shoe cleaning, and basic cookery skills such as cooking pasta and frying an egg. We also keep traditional favourites in the programme, including pancake night, rounders in the park, and the chip shop survey, where Scouts visit local chip shops and rate them for value, taste, and portion size. Unsurprisingly, this is always a popular activity.

One of our first events of 2025, apart from our regular Monday meetings, was the spring camp at Boidier Hurst. For the first time, we camped alongside the other Sections in the Group. We took twenty-one Scouts away for the final weekend in April. After arriving on Friday evening, they pitched their tents before dinner. Over the weekend, they took part in a range of Scouting activities, learned how to use a knife and axe safely, were taught to respect the Countryside Code and be considerate camping neighbours, lit fires for cooking, and prepared the evening meal not only for themselves but also for the Cub Scout Section.

On Sunday morning, after an excellent Scouts' Own led by Akela, all Sections took part in a tug-of-war competition. Each Section first competed against the others to see who was strongest, before joining forces for combined contests such as Scouts and Cub Scouts versus Explorer Scouts and Beaver Scouts, followed by leaders and helpers against all Sections. On a sunny spring morning, it was wonderful to

see everyone laughing and enjoying themselves together as one group with a strong feeling of belonging.

My favourite Monday evenings are in the early summer, from May to July, when the lighter, warmer nights let us leave the headquarters and enjoy activities in the local parks. One evening last year, we were based at Little Acres in Horton Country Park, where we played wide-games and made the most of being outdoors. Weeks later, we returned to Horton Park for a map and compass exercise, with Scouts navigating a course around the park. Fortunately, not too many got lost.

The week before Summer Camp, we took sixteen Scouts to the Royal International Air Tattoo at RAF Fairford, the largest airshow in Europe. The Scouts enjoyed aerial displays featuring the world's leading military aircraft, as well as exploring the extensive ground displays of both private and military planes. As always, the highlight of the day was the Red Arrows display.

For Summer Camp this year, we decided to stay closer to home and chose Stream Side in Coombes, near Shoreham on the south coast. Caroline organised and ran the camp, planning an excellent programme that included flying, canoeing, hikes, a boat trip on the local Sea Scouts' yacht, and much more. The site, near Lancing College, has a stream running through it, a small main building with a hall and kitchen, and two toilets and a shower.

With nineteen Scouts, eleven Explorer Scouts, and an average of twelve leaders attending, those facilities were not enough, so we hired additional ones, together with a generator to power them. To get everyone to camp, we travelled by train. On Saturday 26 July, Caroline and Liam, supported by parents, shepherded the Scouts and Explorer Scouts onto the train at Tattenham Corner for the journey to Shoreham via Croydon. From Shoreham station, they walked along the River Adur to the campsite.

On Sunday, the Scouts took part in a map and compass treasure hunt to recover valuable parts the RAF had supposedly lost in the local area. Organised by Liam, it was an excellent activity and enjoyed by all.

On Monday, I left the Scouts to join the Explorer Scouts and support Christian as he led eleven Explorer Scouts on a two-day expedition. It

was an experience I will not forget, sleeping in hammocks on the first night, hiking through the beautiful Sussex countryside, then sleeping under a basha on the second night before walking back to Stream Side via Devil's Dyke. I am sure you will read more about the expedition in the Explorer Scouts' report.

Back at camp, the Scouts had flown from Shoreham Airfield with our pilot, John Petersen, gone paddle boarding and canoeing on the River Adur, and spent a day at the beach. When I returned, we headed to Brighton for a museum, crazy golf, and some time by the sea before ending camp with a spy-themed murder mystery night. We travelled home by train, though the journey was much quieter, thanks to a group of thoroughly tired Scouts.

Thank you to Caroline for all the challenging work she put into arranging the camp, and to Howard for re-plumbing the site to ensure the showers and toilets worked properly. Finally, thank you to the whole camp leadership team for making it all happen.

When Scouts resumed in September, we welcomed many new faces to our usual Monday evening activities. In early October, the Troop visited Epsom Town Hall to meet the Mayor of Epsom and Ewell, who gave an excellent explanation of how they govern the borough. They then invited the Scouts into the main chamber to debate whether chocolate is good or bad for you.

In November, we attended the Lord Mayor's Show to sell programmes. For the first time in ten years, the small team that went sold more than one thousand programmes, raising over a thousand pounds for the Group. Well done to the team. The following day, a large part of the Group took part in the Remembrance Day parade at St Barnabas.

In the run-up to Christmas, the Scouts made craft items, iced cookies, and got into the festive spirit. The week before Christmas, we took them bowling for their Christmas outing.

In January, we returned to our regular Monday meetings, held a wide game on the Downs, practised CPR, and prepared for the Challenge Hike, where we entered two teams. Both finished in an acceptable time, although neither placed first or second.

The Troop is now concentrating on the year ahead, including Troop Camp, RAF inspection, and our Summer Camp in Kandersteg, Switzerland, which I look forward to writing about next year.

Thank you to Caroline, Liam, and Richard Denyer for your dedication and support every Monday, and to our other Section leaders, Pippa, Richard, and Christian. Together, we make an excellent team under the leadership of Luke, our Group Lead Volunteer. Thank you also to Howard for his constant support, and to our Chairman, Simon, and the rest of the Executive for all they do, including providing us with an excellent headquarters. Finally, I am always interested to know how many people read this report, so if you have got this far, thank you.

Paul Dawson

Scout Lead Volunteer

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXPLORER SCOUT LEAD VOLUNTEER

My name is Christan Barnes and this is the second annual report for the Explorer Scout Section I am delivering, having taken on the role of Explorer Leader for the Group in September 2024.

The Explorer Scout Unit is the final youth Section in Scouting. Young people from the ages 14½ to 18 can be Explorer Scouts. All our current Explorer Scouts have joined the Unit from the Scout Troop.

The Unit currently has eighteen Explorer Scouts. This number has been stable across the year. It has also allowed the Unit to create a third Patrol. Our current Patrol Leaders are Lexie (Legends), Joseph (Alphas) and Ziggy/Ollie (Ziggurat). Alice has continued to contribute to the Unit as senior PL.

Activity: The Unit meets each week during term time on Tuesday evenings. A key feature of the Explorer Scouts is that members of the Unit are expected to take the lead for deciding the direction and activities of the Section. This is reflected in the weekly programme that is developed by members of the Unit, with the activity of the weekly meetings co-ordinated by groups of Explorer Scouts (often in Patrols) each week on a rotating basis.

Our weekly meetings have been filled with open fire and camp stove cooking, South African cultural evening, Christmas decoration making (an excellent evening put together by Logan), debating (well done to Alice for the idea), recycled fashion, music evening (Daniel's brainchild), the science of taste (by Arya and Maya), meals out together at the end of term and many other activities.

A highlight of the weekly meeting is the sense of belonging and community across the Unit. As a leader, it is also rewarding seeing the Explorer Scouts demonstrate the skills they have learned while they were Beavers, Cubs and Scouts with a higher degree of expertise.

> All of us have been part of the Scouting movement since a young age and enjoyed it all, especially Explorers (the Section for older teenagers). At camps and weekly Unit sessions, along with enjoying ourselves, we develop outdoor skills such as learning useful knots and camp craft.
>
> Being an Explorer is about both teamwork and independence; we cultivate these characteristics by planning and running our own weekly sessions and other Unit activities. At the same time, we are learning organisational and leadership skills. A big thank you to Christian, Nina, Paul, Caroline, Pippa, Adrian and Craig for all their help running the Unit.
>
> Joseph, Lexie, Ziggy, Ollie and Alice
>
> Patrol Leaders for the Explorer Unit

The Explorers attended the summer camp in Shoreham and Brighton area along with the Scouts. Activities included a two-day hike across the South Downs, flying from Shoreham airport (fantastic views around Brighton and the south coast), indoor bouldering and a day out in Brighton.

Spring camp was held at Boidier Hurst in April. This was a Group camp held with the other Sections. Other camping events across the year included training events for the Explorer Belt.

Explorer Belt and Awards: Congratulations to Joseph Gorton and Finn Macauly- Conway who successfully took part in the 2025 Surrey Explorer Belt award in Poland, which was awarded to them in September 2025.

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 Explorer Scouts, in teams, travel around fifteen kilometres each day on a route they have designed with a focus on engaging with the communities they encounter on their travels. The 2026 Explorer Belt will take place in Bavaria, Germany. Impressively in the space of three years our Unit has gone from fielding one Explorer to fielding an entire team of five! More on this next year.

Daniel, Lexie, Joseph and Logan have all achieved their Platinum awards during the year. Many of the Unit members are working towards their higher-level Duke of Edinburgh's Award, which contributes to the challenge badges for the Explorer Scout Section. I anticipate many more awards being handed out in the coming year.

Across the Group: Throughout the year the Explorer Scouts have carried on contributing to the Group by engaging with members of the other Sections by helping at weekly meetings, assisting at camps, attending events such as the Remembrance Day service at St Barnabas and volunteering at the British Downs Syndrome Swimming Championships.

As part of the weekly programme and the Explorer Challenge Awards, members of the Unit have arranged to run meetings for the Cub and Scout Sections. In January the Explorer Scouts visited the Scout Troop and the Cub Scout Pack to deliver an Australia Day themed evening for the Scouts and a Burns Night themed evening for the Cub Scouts.

Daniel and Lexie have carried on their commitments as Young Leaders with the Beaver Scout Colony. Maya and Arya have spent time as helpers with the Cub Scout Pack as part of the volunteer aspects of the Duke of Edinburgh (and challenge) Award.

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.

As 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, Adrian and Dom for the assistance they have provided to the Unit during the year. My greatest thanks go to Nina Gumos, as the second leader, and Craig Hall, as an ever-reliable helper to the Unit, whose assistance I greatly appreciate and I recognise their support as vital to the success of the Unit.

Christian Barnes
Explorer Lead Volunteer

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE 100 CLUB TREASURER

The year started with 39 members holding 91 shares and ended the year with 38 members holding 93 shares. In the year the Club took in £1,195 and awarded over half this sum of money in prizes (£560). £15 worth of cheques issued this year have yet to be cashed. In November a member left the club, declined their September winnings of £10 and donated £100 to the Club. Towards the end of the year the bank introduced charging 50 pence per cheque handled (£4.50 to date) and therefore we removed the majority of the Club's holdings (£3,300) into a Group Account.

April	Ken Lauder		
May	Paul Dawson	Spencer Hannan	Spencer Hannan
June	Alistair Spalding	Mark Sydenham	Alistair Spalding
July	Catherine Allison		
August	Howard Park	Sara Dawson	John Hughes
September	Sara Dawson	Simon Pearce	Ian White
October	Daniel Coleby		
November	John Mortimer	Sara Dawson	Clive Coventry
December	Howard Park	Pippa Del Nevo	Sara Dawson
January	Paul Dawson		
February	Howard Park	Richard Emery	Mark Sydenham
March	Simon Pearce	Clive Coventry	Paul Davey

Howard Park
100 Club Treasurer

A FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

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 protection limit, at the time, of £85k. Note: This limit has since been raised to 120k.

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 automated feeds from all of the Barclays accounts. The data from the CAF account and Lloyds (100 Club) account are added manually. 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

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

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 2026 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.

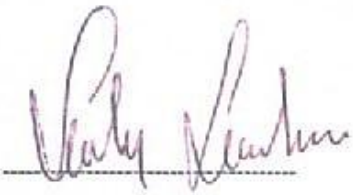
Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Examiner.
The Air Scout Group's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144 of the Charities Act, 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination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



22nd June 2026

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 2026

Income and Expenditure

	Notes	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total FY25/26	FY24/25
Income:					
Activities	5	-	£15,557.82	£15,557.82	£19,722.35
Fundraising	4	-	£3,433.23	£3,433.23	£5,580.51
Donations & Grants	3	-	£21,374.46	£21,374.46	£20,418.16
Bank Interest		-	£578.38	£578.38	£721.08
Membership Fees	2	-	£11,377.86	£11,377.86	£9,857.73
HMRC Gift Aid rebate	14	-	£6,775.62	£6,775.62	£0.00
Total Income		**-**	**£59,097.37**	**£59,097.37**	**£56,299.83**
Direct Charitable Expenditure:					
Miscellaneous	13	-	£1,130.67	£1,130.67	£3,208.60
Water Rates		-	£1,013.53	£1,013.53	£459.20
General Rates	12	-	£672.30	£672.30	£634.25
Energy		-	£3,838.57	£3,838.57	£4,714.10
Telephone & Internet		-	£659.91	£659.91	£619.26
Accountancy		-	£1,200.00	£1,200.00	£2,400.00
Building Maintenance and Repairs	14	-	£375.39	£375.39	£20,158.80
Cleaning		-	£1,245.24	£1,245.24	£1,025.93
Lease	10	-	£182.00	£182.00	£182.00
Bank Charges		-	£209.00	£209.00	£272.00
Insurance		-	£1,833.94	£1,833.94	£339.56
Capitation	2	-	£5,932.50	£5,932.50	£5,280.00
Copyright and Royalties		-	£0.00	£0.00	£250.57
Premises Expenses		-	£347.77	347.77	£0.00
Depreciation		£4,490.29	£0.00	£4,490.29	£5,917.00
		£4,490.29	**£18,640.82**	**£23,131.11**	**£45,461.27**
Other Expenditure:					
Activities	5	-	£16,522.64	£16,522.64	£26,642.35
Fundraising	4	-	£1,396.20	£1,396.20	£1,395.00
		-	**£17,918.84**	**£17,918.84**	**£28,037.35**
Total Expenditure		**£4,490.29**	**£36,559.66**	**£41,049.95**	**£73,498.62**
Net (expenditure)/income for the year		**(£4,490.29)**	**£22,537.71**	**£18,047.42**	**(£17,198.79**
Transfer between funds		£4,490.29	(£4,490.29)	£0.00	£0.00
Fund balances brought forward		£0.00	£138,685.94	£138,685.94	£155,884.73
Fund balances carried forward	9	**£0.00**	**£156,733.36**	**£156,733.36**	**£138,685.94**

BALANCE SHEET

at 31 March 2026

	Notes	FY25/26	FY24/25
Fixed Assets	6	£0.00	£4,490.29
Current Assets			
Debtors	7	£16,610.00	£477.00
Cash at bank and in hand	Appendix 1	£153,768.84	£135,837.65
		£170,378.84	£136,314.65
Current Liabilities			
Creditors	8	£13,645.47	£2,118.99
Net current assets		£156,733.37	£134,195.66
Net assets		**£156,733.37**	£138,685.95
represented by			
FUNDS			
Unrestricted Funds			
General purpose fund	9	**£156,733.36**	£138,685.94
Restricted			
Building project	9	-	-
		£156,733.36	£138,685.94

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

at 31 March 2026

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 and 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	FY24/25
Beaver Scouts	£1,243.00	£2,302.83	£1,059.83	£1,125.52
Cub Scouts	£1,412.50	£2,757.85	£1,345.35	£1,128.73
Scouts	£2,260.00	£4,445.39	£2,185.39	£2,288.15
Explorer Scouts	£1,017.00	£1,871.79	£854.79	£35.33
Capitation Rebate			£0.00	£0.00
Sub Total	**£5,932.50**	**£11,377.86**	**£5,445.36**	**£4,577.73**
Section Levy	£1,575.00		(£1,575.00)	(£1,440.00)
Recovered Income Tax				
	£7,507.50	**£11,377.86**	**£3,870.36**	**£3,137.73**

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 2026

3. Donations and Grants

	FY25/26	FY24/25
Pre School	£19,634.46	£19,268.16
Other Hall Hire	£1,740.00	£1,150.00
Grants	£0.00	£0.00
Donations	£0.00	£0.00
	£21,374.46	**£20,418.16**

4. Fundraising

	Organiser's costs	Proceeds	Net	FY24/25
Internal Fundraising				
100 Club	£618.50	£1,195.00	£576.50	£624.00
External Fundraising Group				
Race Night	£0.00	£220.53	£220.53	£1,620.58
Scouts/Explorers				
Lord Mayor's Show	£0.00	£1,161.00	£1,161.00	£1,914.00
Other Fundraising	£0.00	£79.00	£79.00	£95.00
Cub Scouts				
Food Bank Fundraising	£777.70	£777.70	£0.00	(£0.07)
Other Donations	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
	£1,396.20	**£3,433.23**	**£2,037.03**	**£4,253.51**

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

at 31 March 2026

5. Activities

	Organiser's costs	Proceeds	Net	FY24/25
GROUP				
Camps	£1,573.83	£0.00	(£1,573.83)	£251.08
Camps (accrued from previous year)	£125.00	£0.00	(£125.00)	(£2,265.10)
Activities	£479.75	£0.00	(£479.75)	£0.00
BEAVER SCOUTS				
Camps	£409.44	£518.67	£109.23	(£497.97)
Camps (accrued from previous year)	£0.00	£440.16	£440.16	£660.17
Activities	£611.21	£173.73	(£437.48)	(£761.45)
CUB SCOUTS				
Camps	£197.49	£309.56	£112.07	(£439.18)
Camps (accrued from previous year)	£102.00	£478.83	£376.83	£361.20
Activities	£272.47	£0.00	(£272.47)	(£1,362.65)
SCOUTS				
Camps	£4,373.33	£7,868.26	£3,494.93	(£4,006.25)
Camps (accrued from previous year)	£250.00	£0.00	(£250.00)	£518.88
Activities	£2,586.30	£241.00	(£2,345.30)	(£898.44)
EXPLORER SCOUTS				
Camps	£4,260.58	£4,300.83	£40.25	£1,422.50
Camps (accrued from previous year)	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£377.61
Activities	£1,281.24	£1,226.78	(£54.46)	(£280.40)
	£16,522.64	**£15,557.82**	**(£964.82)**	**(£6,920.00)**

Accrued Activities

	Organiser's costs	Proceeds	Net	FY24/25
GROUP				
Camps	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	(£125.00)
EXPLORERS				
Camps	£0.00	£159.54	£159.54	£0.00
SCOUTS				
Camps	£16,500.00	£11,158.96	(£5,341.04)	(£250.00)
CUBS				
Camps	£110.00	£989.42	£879.42	£376.83
BEAVERS				
Day trips	£0.00	£137.55	£137.55	£440.16
	£16,610.00	**£12,445.47**	**(£4,164.53)**	**£441.99**

Accrued Scouts Organiser's Costs and Proceeds relate to KIX 26 payments

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

at 31 March 2026

6. Tangible Assets

	Leasehold buildings	Fixtures and Fittings	Total
Cost:			
At 1 April 2025	£145,070.29	£23,332.93	£168,403.22
Depreciation:			
At 1 April 2025	£140,580.00	£23,332.93	£163,912.93
Charge for the year	£4,490.29	£0.00	£5,917.00
At 31 March 2026	£145,070.29	£23,332.93	£169829.93
Net book amount:			
At 31 March 2026	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
At 1 April 2025	£4,490.29	£0.00	£4,490.29

7. Debtors

	FY25/26	FY24/25
Payments and accrued income	£16,610.00	£477.00

8. Creditors

amounts falling due within the one year.

	FY25/26	FY24/25
Accruals and deferred income	£13,645.47	£2,118.99

9. Summary of Net Assets by Funds

	Unrestricted Funds General Purpose	Restricted Funds Building Project	Total
Fixed Assets	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Net Current Assets	£156,733.37	£0.00	£156,733.37
Net Assets	**£156,733.37**	**£0.00**	**£156,733.37**

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

at 31 March 2026

10. Other Financial Commitments

At 31 March 2026, the charity had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as set out below:

	Land and Buildings	
	FY25/26	**FY24/25**
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 2026 (2025: £ nil).

12. General Rates

General Rates include:

- An annual payment to Epsom and Ewell Borough Council for refuse collection.
- An annual payment to Epsom and 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.
- Office materials
- Printing.

14. HMRC Gift Aid rebate

In FY25/26 the Group was able to reclaim back dated Gift Aid from HMRC.

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

Bank and Cash

Appendix 1

		FY25/26	FY24/25
GROUP			
Current account	Barclays	£25,446.93	£1,658.47
Savings account	Barclays	£33,466.91	£34,559.96
CAF account	CAF Bank	£84,110.08	£84,002.00
BEAVERS			
Current account	Barclays	£2,439.36	£3,575.23
CUB			
Current account	Barclays	£2,944.15	£3,902.78
SCOUTS			
Current account	Barclays	£878.03	£2,639.85
EXPLORER			
Current account	Barclays	£3,978.88	£2,271.36
100 Club			
Current account	Lloyds	£504.50	£3,228.00
		£153,768.84	**£135,837.65**

Justin Manley
Group Treasurer