Trustees' Annual Report

for the period 1st January 2025 – 31st December 2025.

Section A: Reference and administration details

Details

Charity name:

The 11th/9th Cambridge Scout Group

Other name:

Newnham Scout Group

Registered charity number:

308261

Charity's Principal Address:

Newnham Scout and Guide Centre,

Chedworth Street,

Cambridge.

CB3 9JF

Trustees

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

In accordance with The Scout Association's guidelines on converting Executive Committees into Trustee Boards, the Group has reduced the number of trustees.

Sanchia Norris - Chair

Robert Frank Lee - Group Lead Volunteer

Charles Gold - Treasurer (Until 18th May 2025)

Matthew Wood - Treasurer (From 20th May 2025)

Rebaka Begum - Secretary (Until 18th May 2025)

Kirsty McDougall

Nick Whitehead - (Until 18th May 2025)

Bethan Rodden

Deborah Rosier (From 15th September 2025)

Robert Forrest (From 6th August 2025)

Advisers

Lawyers: Taylor Wessing, London EC4A

Section B: Structure, Governance and Management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document

The Group's governing documents are those of The Scout Association. They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and The Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.

How the charity is constituted

The Group is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Scouts. The Group has adopted additional definitions to guide its governing body:

Quorum for the Trustees

- Group Lead Volunteer
- Chair of Trustees
- Two other members

From 18th May 2025:

- Three people minimum
- As least one uniformed trustee
- As least one non-uniformed trustee
- Either Chair or GLV to be present

Quorum for the Building Management Subcommittee

Four in number from among the committee members

Quorum for meetings of the Group Scout Council

- Group Lead Volunteer
- Chair of Trustees
- Two Section Leaders
- Two elected members

From 18th May 2025:

- As least one uniformed trustee
- As least one non-uniformed trustee
- Either Chair or GLV to be present
- Two other members

Elected members on the Trustees

The Trustees shall include one member elected from among the uniformed leaders volunteering with any section in the Group

Trustee selection methods

The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.

Additional governance issues

The Group is managed by the Trustee Board, the members of which are the 'Charity Trustees' of the Scout Group which is an educational charity. As charity trustees they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.

Members of the Trustee Board complete 'Essential Information for Trustees Introduction' training within the first 3 months of joining the trustee board.

This Trustee Board exists to support the Group Lead Volunteer in meeting the responsibilities of the appointments and is responsible for:

- The maintenance of Group property;
- The raising of funds and the administration of Group finance; The insurance of persons, property and equipment;
- Group public occasions;
- Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support;
- Appointing any sub committees that may be required;
- Appointing Group Administrators and Advisors other than those who are elected

The Group Trustees have identified the major risks to which they believe the Group is exposed, these have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate against them. The main areas of concern that have been identified are:

- Damage to the building, property and equipment. The Group would request the use of buildings, property and equipment from neighbouring organisations such as the church, community centre and other Scout Groups. The Group has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss.
- Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members. The Group, through the census fees, contributes to the Scout Association's national accident insurance policy. The national policy covers only members of Scouting; non-members are covered through additional insurance directly purchased by the group. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities.
- Reduced income from fund-raising. The Group is primarily reliant upon income from subscriptions and fundraising. The group does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Committee could raise the value of subscriptions to increase the income to the group on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently.
- Reduction or loss of leaders. The group is totally reliant on volunteers to run and administer the activities of the group. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular section or the group as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the Group.
- Reduction or loss of members. The Group provides activities for all young people aged 4 to 18. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular section or the group as whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the Group would be required; the process for handling such a situation is detailed in the Policy, Organisation and Rules governing the operation of a Scout Group.

Section C: Objectives and activities

Charity objects

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

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.
- **Co-operation** - We make a positive difference; we co- operate 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
- make and live by their Promise.

Activities

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects.

The 11th/9th Cambridge is a large Scout Group based in the Newnham district of Cambridge but drawing young people and adult volunteers from further afield.

The group is composed of around 150 young people aged between 4 and 18 who are assisted by 50 adult volunteers.

2025 was the fourth year of Squirrels in Newnham, and it was another year full of new adventures, new skills and new friends. Squirrels have learnt about everything from the moon phases with chocolate biscuits to den building and climbing. We were very proud to be the only Squirrels at the St George's Day hike, and we scaled Castle Hill fearlessly! A highlight for the drey was three Squirrels completing their Chief Scout's Acorn Award, the highest award a Squirrel can earn - a testament to the outstanding programme and dedication of the Squirrel team.

The Beavers enjoyed a year defined by "fun, friendship, and adventure," awarding a record 82 challenge badges and several Chief Scout's Bronze awards. They explored international themes with

pitta pizza making and competed in the "Jambowlree," while also experimenting with photovoltaic cells made from blueberries with Cambridge University scientists. Summer highlights included den building at Wandlebury Country Park, cycling to Grantchester, and a first-time camping experience at Risdens Scout Campsite where they learned circus skills. The autumn term was equally active, featuring a pirate-themed activity day, a "coin-flip hike" around Newnham, and lessons in first aid and kitchen safety with a professional chef.

2025 was another "fantastic year" for the Cubs, filled with activities ranging from pioneering to fire lighting, resulting in 183 badges and a Silver Chief Scout award. The pack visited the Computing museum and the history of flight museum at Duxford, and achieved an impressive 70th-place finish in the International Jambowlree. A major highlight was the exciting “Mystery Trip" to Colchester Zoo, and a summer District Camp at Leslie Sell featuring campfire singing and rockets. The year concluded with community-focused poppy making, a visit from birds of prey, and an adventurous trip to Clip 'n' Climb.

The Amazons Scout Troop had a prolific year, accruing over 330 person-nights away and celebrating numerous Gold Chief Scout Awards. Weekly meetings were highly varied, with Scouts learning everything from fencing and punting to making recorders out of carrots. The troop's summer camp in the Peak District was a standout event, involving rock climbing on real rocks, a trip to Alton Towers waterpark, and the popular "Speciality Meal" where Scouts planned and shopped for their own menus. The troop also excelled in competitions, taking second place in the Chiltern20 hike and winning the Silver Fox competition.

The Spartans Scout Troop also had a year "filled with adventure," focusing on both traditional and creative skills. Highlights of their program included cooking on open fires, celebrating the Lunar New Year and Pancake Day, and experimenting with "alternative fire lighting" using batteries and Vaseline. Scouts engaged in archery, climbing, and unique challenges like "trash fashion shows" and a "Traitors" game night. Although the troop merged back into the Amazons at the end of the year due to leader departures, they enjoyed a full schedule including an expedition camp in May and participation in the group-wide "Trick & Eat" event.

The Explorer Scouts experienced a year of "diverse accomplishments" and community focus, with the Duke of Edinburgh award remaining a focal point. Five members began their Gold award challenge, bringing the total number of awards pursued in the Unit to 21 since 2023. Beyond their own adventures at Hallowtree Activity Centre, Explorers gave back by serving as Young Leaders at various group camps. Their commitment to service was evident in their Halloween food drive for local shelters and participation in Remembrance Day, while weekly meetings fostered a "tight-knit unit" through challenges and blind taste tests.

The whole group came together to enjoy a fabulous family camp in September, full of Scouting fun and new friendships.

The group continues to thrive and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

Public benefit

The Group meets the Charity Commission’s public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings.

Section D: Achievements and performance

Summary

The Group has continued to provide education, training and support to young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society. It has been supported in this aim by the parents of the young people in particular and the community generally.

Financial Review

Reserves policy

The Group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the group should income and fundraising activities fall short. The Trustees consider that the group should hold a sum equivalent to 12 months' running costs, circa £50,000, considering the growth of the group and rising costs.

In addition to this the Trustees are looking to strategically build capital reserves to rebuild or replace the building in which the group meets.

Deficits

The group has no funds materially in deficit.

Further details

The Group does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer term investments.

The Group has therefore adopted a risk-averse strategy to the investment of its funds.

Currently all funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies.

The trustees have placed a portion of the group's funds into an interest-bearing account to prevent erosion through inflation

Section E: Other Optional Information Plans

Plans for future periods (details of any significant activities planned to achieve them).

The Group intends to continue to offer high quality, co-educational Scouting to young people in the community.

The Trustees are actively working on addressing the future and the state of the building in which the Group meets, and which is used by the wider community.

Section F: Declaration

Approval

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Sanchia Sanchia Norris Chair	Robert Frank Lee Group Lead Volunteer

3(d). Financial Sta (PDF page 11)

11th/9th Cambridge Scout Group
Accounts
For the year ended 31st December 2025

Receipts and Payments

		2025 £	2024 £
Receipts			
Donations, Legacies and similar receipts			
Donations		£ 4,236.80	£ 10,653.80
	Sub-total	£ 4,236.80	£ 10,653.80
Grants			
Gift Aid		£ 8,820.67	£ -
	Sub-total	£ 8,820.67	£ -
Fundraising (gross)			
Other fundraisaing activities		£ 3,921.18	£ 2,601.01
	Sub-total	£ 3,921.18	£ 2,601.01
Investment receipts			
Bank Interest		£ 2,650.00	£ 3,619.80
Property rental income		£ 2,883.00	£ 3,260.00
Minibus usage contributions		£ 5,485.45	£ 9,223.45
Guiding contribution		£ 645.00	£ 645.00
	Sub-total	£ 11,663.45	£ 16,748.25
Scouting receipts			
Membership Subscriptions		£ 20,095.00	£ 17,652.50
Uniform sales		£ 82.25	£ 80.00
Camps income		£ 13,366.24	£ 17,430.04
Other activities income		£ 3,754.78	£ 6,124.69
Other income		£ 3,902.48	£ 10.99
	Sub-total	£ 41,200.75	£ 41,298.22
Total Receipts		£ 69,842.85	£ 71,301.28

3(d). Financial S[illegible] (PDF page 12)

Payments

Charitable Payments

Rent	£	100.00	£	100.00
Water and Sewerage	£	345.53	£	141.22
Electricity, gas & telecoms	£	3,010.65	£	1,984.42
Insurance	£	4,071.07	£	3,835.50
Building repairs	£	134.40	£	312.16
Equipment, materials and repairs	£	1,287.80	£	7,874.97
Housekeeping	£	2,448.00	£	2,168.00
Printing and photocopying	£	39.60	£	43.20
Adult support	£	1,535.29	£	275.65
OSM charges	£	307.87	£	207.32
Bank charges	£	-	£	55.28
Sub-total	£	13,280.21	£	16,997.72

Scouting activity Payments

Scouting association fees	£	7,194.50	£	7,024.50
Youth activities	£	7,686.10	£	6,067.79
Camps	£	14,554.41	£	15,116.35
Uniform & badges	£	2,801.37	£	3,068.92
Sub-total	£	32,236.38	£	31,277.56

Fundraising payments

AGM expenses	£	1,012.73	£	113.30
Other Fundraising costs	£	425.27	£	101.00
Sub-total	£	1,438.00	£	214.30

Minibus payments

Minibus running costs	£	2,469.98	£	3,363.05
Sub-total	£	2,469.98	£	3,363.05

Total Gross Payments	£ 49,424.57	£ 51,852.63
Surplus	£ 20,418.28	£ 19,448.65
Cash funds last year end	£ 177,206.09	£ 157,757.44
Cash funds this year end	£ 197,624.37	£ 177,206.09