

14TH Tonbridge Sea Scout Group 2024-25 Annual Report

Our Group continues to gain members and leaders, we now have over 140 young people across Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Sea Explorers. We are supported by over forty committed leaders and other regular helpers who make it possible to run nearly every day of the week during the boating season. We have regular meetings on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday nights, along with Sunday sailing for Scouts and Explorers at Bough Beech.

The Beavers take part in wide range of fun and games at the Weir View Hut on a Monday evening, they have increased their badge work this year including communications, nature, art and collectors badges. They also get to enjoy going out on the water during the boating season, this includes a water-fight and ice-cream trips to the Country park.

The Cub Pack enjoyed boating activities including kayaking, motor-boating, Stand up paddling boarding and pulling during the summer months, an Autumn Fancy dress party, and a Christmas party at the end of term. They made pancakes for Shrove Tuesday, and created light boats for Diwali, and also completed their First Aid badge. We have also issued a record number of badges for Home help, Hobbies, Collectors, Swimmers and Art badges. Cub Camp was held in Sevenoaks and included, backwards cooking, Air Rifle shooting, Archery, Crete Stacking, Assault courses and a Nike to the local Nature reserve.

The Sea Scout Troop have been engaged in the usual wide range of activities during the year, including a weekly knot skills, an Ice-skating evening for both Scouts and Explorers, and wide games. As well as the Nautical Skills badge-work, they have been enjoying kayaking, rafting, stand up paddling boarding and pulling on the river. This year we added 6 trained leaders to the SUP Permits, allowing us greater access to Paddleboard experiences, utilising the 8 person board we purchased, with help from a Royal Navy grant.

The Explorers completed spring term badge work including First Aid and Science, as well as the typical Nautical Skills badge work. They then engaged in a all weather summer season of boating, including Rafting, Kayaking, SUPs, and water skills - ensuring they have fun and learn the correct way to handle all craft.

Summer Camp for Sea Scouts and Explorers was held in Bedford for the first time. Our Scouts and Explorers enjoyed a program of kayaking, SUPs, rafting, hiking, camp fires, cooking and games. We took 60 young people and 26 helpers. This year, we will be back to Lymington to add the power-boating and sailing Bedford can not offer as it's inland.

I am pleased to report that the Group's financial position remains healthy. Our cash position was £73,359 at 31 December 2024 compared to £51,976 at 31 December 2023. We would like to thank the generosity of a number of donors, and we continue to generate other income through fund-raising activities such as the Water Fundays that we organise for Cubs, Scouts and Guides in the District; and also from Gift Aid received on the subs and other donations. Gift Aid remains an important source of income for the Group.

Since we set up the Assistance Fund with the financial support of a benefactor, we have had a number of requests for financial assistance for recurring subs or activities such as Summer Camp that have been approved, and this Fund continues to be available to support Young People and Leaders to participate in all of our activities.

The 14th Tonbridge manage the Weir View Hut for the District as well as using it for our own activities. During the year, we have replaced kitchen units, installed a new water fountain, upgraded the lighting and installed a washing machine.

Once again this year, on behalf of the Group Executive, I would like to thank all of the Leaders, helpers, parents and other volunteers who give so much of their free time, and so much energy to make the 14th Tonbridge Sea Scout Group such a wonderful experience for all our Young People.

Our priorities for 2025 are to continue to reinforce the leadership team with new volunteers so that we can continue to deliver the large number of activities that we currently do for the 140 or so Young People in our Group, and to purchase new parts and upgrade the ageing Sailing fleet, which will require at least £3000.

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Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the 14th Tonbridge Sea Scout Group Charity Number 308284

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2024, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 1 4 5 (5) (b of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name: Tony Grubb

Relevant professional qualification or body: FCCA

Address: 9 Quarry Rise Tonbridge

Date: 6/22/2025

Signed by:



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	2024	2023
	£	£
Subscriptions	20,634	17,852
Activities	23,747	20,275
Other income	14,973	8,903
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	59,354	47,029
Activity expenses	(22,924)	(28,770)
Administration expenses	(1,970)	(1,152)
Premises costs	(3,413)	(4,365)
Fees	(8,447)	(9,631)
Insurance	(4,031)	(3,939)
Training	(125)	(1,062)
Equipment costs	(980)	(3,743)
Bank fees	(1,835)	(1,590)
Other Expenses	(897)	(904)
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	(44,622)	(55,155)
Profit /(Loss) for Year	<hr/>	<hr/>
	14,732	(8,126)

	2024	2023
	£	£
Group bank account	£24,740	£8,538.11
Deposit account	£48,619	£43,437.94
Scouts and Beavers	£0	£410.46
Cubs	£0	£255.60
Creditors	(£5,985)	£0.00
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	£67,374	£52,642
Retained profits B/f	£52,642	£60,769
Profit /(Loss) for Year	£14,732	(£8,126)
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	£67,374	£52,642