

District Lead Volunteer Annual Report 2024/25

In previous annual reports, I have spoken about what the last few years had taught us; to value the range of opportunities that were available to us, to move forwards and build a future for local scouting that gives scope for future growth whilst still providing opportunities to develop the key skills for life that is a fundamental part of our intrinsic motivation. This year has, once again, built upon the successes of last year and moved another step forward to building back to the years prior to COVID. We are acutely aware that we will never return to the same level and degree of activity that we had prior to this period, simply because young people's attitudes and needs have changed much more significantly, and society's needs have changed. I still firmly believe that Scouting has a place in developing young people and adults, and continues to provide the structure and routines plus enriching activities that remain so important in today's society.

This year's census has again seen a 6% drop in the numbers of young people registered in Scouting in Dronfield, and this mirrors the trend seen across the County. The largest drop in numbers is in the Cub section which is slightly concerning due to the knock-on effect that this will have on Scout and Explorer Scout numbers coming through in future years. Part of the reason for this can be explained by the regional drop in the birth rate which is being seen in schools at older cub / younger scout age group. We still have regular enquiries for young people joining at Beavers and Cubs in our most popular groups, and some of these sections have waiting lists for the next 6-8 months. We recognise that scouting is still popular, with young people of all ages as a result of our brilliant programme, but equally we recognise that Scouting is in competition for our young peoples' time in an increasingly busy schedule for them; it is incumbent upon us to ensure that we remain relevant, engaging and adaptable; ultimately we need to work smarter, not harder and use what is out there to build a brilliant programme, which I see in the best, and most popular sections.

However, whilst we have seen a slight dip in the numbers of young people, I am pleased to announce that for the first time in my time as DLV, we have seen a 51% increase in the numbers of adults registering to volunteer as Team Members. Some of this increase can be explained by the removal of the Group Occasional Helper role in November and people subsequently transferring to a Team Member role, but I am very aware that there have been genuine increases in numbers...in reality, this figure is closer to 15% increase compared to 2024.

November 2024 was a significant time for Scouting with the launch of Transformation and Digital System switchover. This provided us with the opportunity to take stock and reflect on the ways in which we volunteer and begin to embrace a more modern way of training

and working...even if we don't still fully understand what the name of our role actually is!! I want to thank Liz Walton for helping me with a lot of the background administration in preparation for the switchover and for Nicola Godwin (newly moved to District Volunteer Development Team Leader) in ensuring that mandatory training was complete prior to the November switchover. Since then, we have been working hard to ensure that everyone has completed the new Safety training and I am pleased to report that as of the deadline only 3 out of 115 volunteers had to be temporarily suspended pending completion of the training, a phenomenal effort all round. I would like to thank the Group Lead Volunteers for their tireless work in supporting me in chasing their team members up and reiterating the message.

At this point, I do, once again, want to reiterate my sincere thanks to volunteers of all sections for the tireless work that you do week in, week out to put together an amazing programme for our young people. I am immensely proud of all the brilliant work that all leaders and supporters do to make the experiences that we give to young people truly amazing. I also want to thank my two Deputy District Lead Volunteers (Simon Temple and Carrie Kaye) for supporting me in my role. Simon, in particular, has stepped down from this role to focus on providing support to the District in Form NAN approvals, Cub Scouts at Eckington and more importantly, his grandchildren living in Norfolk. Throughout his time as GSL at 6th Dronfield, DC and latterly as my Deputy, Simon has shown true leadership and resilience. I also want to thank Rachel Roberts for working tirelessly to promote the Scout section and to bring a collegiate approach to Scout activity across the District, and to Andy Shaw who has worked hard to ensure that our Explorer Scout Units are well supported.

Activity across all sections and groups continues to increase. Beavers have enjoyed Beaver Sleepovers, Cubs have camped and enjoyed brilliant experiences at Hesley Wood and Walesby (just a couple of places), Scouts have enjoyed a wide-ranging and varied programme (including 5th Dronfield being one of the lucky groups to secure a place at Spring Bank Camp at Drum Hill), and Explorers have enjoyed developing their skills under the D of E scheme and outreach work in the younger sections. At Christmas, we were immensely proud to help Alice Groarke from 3rd Holmesfield celebrate the completion and subsequent award of her King Scout Award. This is the pinnacle of achievement in Scouting and is testament to Alice's dedication and ambition. In January, we held our annual Chilly Challenge, and my thanks once again go to Andy Shaw and Carrie Kaye for co-ordinating the organisation of this within the District. Earlier this year, we took part in the Scout and Guide Quiz. There were many teams from across Scouting and Guiding in the District who took part, and I want to thank all who took part for high levels of participation and support for the event. I also want to thank Rachel Roberts (ADC Scouts) for her tireless work in organising the scouting side of this and for liaising with the guides during their organisation of the event.

The annual Remembrance Day parade was once again extremely well attended. It was once again great to see the community come together in numbers to help remember those that have paid the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom.

Last year, I was excited to announce that 3rd Holmesfield had very kindly agreed to enter into a partnership with the District, which sees them make Wreakes Lane their permanent home and them providing the financial support to redevelop the buildings on the site. As you can see, a lot of work has taken place, and even further work is planned in the coming months to further develop the buildings and the site so that we can realise the future plans that we had for the site. I want to thank Richard Wilkinson and the team at 3rd Holmesfield, without whose vision and financial backing we would be in the position we are today. I truly believe that we have an ideal site, we have the young people to use our site and we also have future plans to develop the site even further to provide facilities to make a more permanent camping space. Exciting times ahead.

I want to take this opportunity to thank two volunteers who have made the decision to step down from their respective roles; Elaine Stenton and Richard Wilkinson. Elaine has served Scouting in Dronfield for longer than I can remember. Alongside her late husband Stuart, Elaine served tirelessly as Leader at 5th Dronfield before latterly taking on a District role as the District SASU Co-ordinator. Elaine has been a tremendous servant of Scouting and has been a valuable source of friendship, support and advice in my role. She has decided to retire, and we wish her a happy retirement and thank her so much for her dedicated service. Richard Wilkinson has decided to step down from his role as Group Lead Volunteer at 3rd Holmesfield, a role that he has worked tirelessly at. Richard's leadership and vision over the years has transformed 3rd Holmesfield from a group that was struggling to sustain itself, into the largest group in the District. Richard has decided to focus his efforts on the site developments at Wreakes Lane and continuing to lead the Scout section at 3rd Holmesfield. I want to place on record my thanks for all the hard work, commitment and dedication that Richard has brought to the role at Holmesfield. I was pleased to advise the Trustee Board in May that Mark Walker has agreed to replace Richard as Group Lead Volunteer, and I am sure that you will all join me in offering your support to Mark as he takes up this role.

We also had to say goodbye to our former DC and latterly District Secretary who sadly passed away recently. As I said in my email to members, Brian leaves a huge hole in our Scouting family; he was a dedicated, passionate and committed Scouter and we will all miss him deeply.

On a final note, this is my last AGM as DLV, and the process to appoint my successor is in the final stages. I had hoped that an announcement would have been made in time for the meeting, but there has been an unforeseen delay in this. Suffice to say that whoever replaces me will take Scouting in Dronfield forwards; there is a secure and exciting future

ahead. As I step down at the end of August, I want to thank all of you for your ongoing support to Scouting in Dronfield and to me personally. I am immensely proud to serve you all, and it is an honour to be part of such a brilliant and magnificent team. Finally, I'd like to thank Nick Marwood and the District Trustee Board for all their support, not only this past year, but over the last 5 years; they are a great team of people.

Yours in Scouting

David Godwin

District Lead Volunteer

July 2025

DRONFIELD DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
Receipts & Payments Account - Summary for the year ending 31 March 2025

	This year - to March 2025	Previous Year
	Designated Funds. £.pp	Designated Funds. £.pp
District and Badge Receipts	2,015.07	2,637.00
Wreakes Lane Receipts	742.37	780.37
Section Receipts	2,068.57	6,213.28
External Activity Receipts	9,652.15	
Total Receipts for the year.	<u>14,478.16</u>	<u>9,630.65</u>
District and Badge Payments	1,109.72	1,887.13
Wreakes Lane Payments	1,385.50	1,554.32
Section Payments	1,473.52	2,795.60
External Activity Payments	4,194.13	
Total Payments for the year.	<u>8,162.87</u>	<u>6,237.05</u>
Net Receipts/Payments for the year.	<u><u>6,315.29</u></u>	<u><u>3,393.60</u></u>
Cash, Bank and similar funds - Brought Forward	This Year	This Year
District and Badges	3,386.53	2,636.66
Wreakes Lane	3,716.50	4,490.46
Scout Active Support	0.00	0.00
District Treasurer - Sub Total	<u>7,103.03</u>	<u>7,127.11</u>
District Beaver Account	532.94	532.94
District Forge Explorers	3,899.15	419.61
District Forge Network	215.69	215.69
District SAS	0.00	61.86
DISTRICT TOTALS	<u><u>11,750.81</u></u>	<u><u>8,357.21</u></u>
Cash, Bank and similar funds - Carried Forward	This Year	This Year
District and Badges	9,749.90	3,386.53
Wreakes Lane	3,073.37	3,716.50
Scout Active Support	0.00	0.00
District Treasurer - Sub Total	<u>12,823.27</u>	<u>7,103.03</u>
District Beaver Account	532.94	532.94
District Forge Explorers	4,494.20	3,899.15
District Forge Network	215.69	215.69
District SAS	0.00	0.00
DISTRICT TOTALS	<u><u>18,066.10</u></u>	<u><u>11,750.81</u></u>

The above account and accompanying statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees

on 20th June 2025 and signed on their behalf by

Nicholas Marwood - Chairman

DRONFIELD DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
Receipts for the year ending 31 March 2025

	This year - April 2024 to March 2025		Previous Year
	General		General
	District & Badges £.pp	Wreakes Lane £.pp	Totals £.pp
<u>MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS</u>			
Subscriptions (2024/2025)	18,760.50		19,047.50
Less "Paid to County"	-17,623.50		-17,844.50
Totals	<u>1,137.00</u>		<u>1,203.00</u>
<u>INVESTMENT INCOME RECEIVED</u>			
Bank Interest		50.87	18.68
Totals		<u>50.87</u>	<u>18.68</u>
<u>DONATIONS RECEIVED</u>			
Donation of Expenses (D.C. & Chairman)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gift Aid (HMRC)		0.00	0.00
Donations	40.06	0.00	562.19
Totals	<u>40.06</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>562.19</u>
<u>ACTIVITY RECEIPTS</u>			
AGM	0.00		0.00
St. George's Day	0.00		0.00
Remembrance Day	0.00		0.00
Beavers	364.00		0.00
Cubs	364.00		0.00
Scouts	0.00		0.00
Explorers	0.00		0.00
Youth Council	0.00		0.00
Totals	<u>728.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<u>FUND RAISING RECEIPTS</u>			
Use of Building		691.50	199.50
Garage Rental		0.00	0.00
Totals		<u>691.50</u>	<u>199.50</u>
<u>SUNDRY RECEIPTS</u>			
Badge Receipts	110.00		12.00
World Scout Jamboree	0.00		1,422.00
Others, Refunds, Misc	0.01		0.00
Totals	<u>110.01</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,434.00</u>
<u>EXTERNAL ACTIVITY RECEIPTS</u>			
Ghana Trip	9,652.15		
Totals	<u>9,652.15</u>		<u>0.00</u>
District Treasurer - Sub Totals	<u>11,667.22</u>	<u>742.37</u>	<u>3,417.37</u>
District Treasurer - Total		<u>12,409.59</u>	<u>3,417.37</u>
<u>DISTRICT SECTION ACCOUNTS</u>			
Beavers		0.00	0.00
Forge Explorers		2,068.57	6,213.28
Forge Network		0.00	0.00
SAS		0.00	0.00
<u>TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THIS YEAR</u>		<u>14,478.16</u>	<u>9,630.65</u>

DRONFIELD DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
Payments for the year ending 31 March 2025

	This year - April 2024 to March 2025		Previous Year
	General		General
	District & Badges £.pp	Wreakes Lane £.pp	Totals £.pp
<u>PAYMENTS FOR PREMISES</u>			
Rent and Rates		5.00	66.15
Electricity		594.00	124.00
Water		159.07	138.07
Insurance	116.20	464.78	550.78
Site Maintenance		2.25	460.75
Repairs and Renewals/Cleaning		160.40	324.73
Totals	<u>116.20</u>	<u>1,385.50</u>	<u>1,664.48</u>
<u>DONATIONS MADE</u>			
Donations	0.00		0.00
Grants	0.00		0.00
Totals	<u>0.00</u>		<u>0.00</u>
<u>ACTIVITY PAYMENTS</u>			
AGM	0.00		0.00
St. George's Day	0.00		0.00
Rememberence Day	27.50		25.00
Beavers	298.58		0.00
Cubs	298.58		0.00
Scouts	0.00		28.45
Explorers	0.00		0.00
Youth Council	0.00		0.00
Training	0.00		0.00
Totals	<u>624.66</u>		<u>53.45</u>
<u>ADMINISTRATION PAYMENTS</u>			
Chairman & D.C.	0.00		0.00
Secretary & Treasurer	0.00		0.00
Hiring Spaces	63.00		
Totals	<u>63.00</u>		<u>0.00</u>
<u>TRUSTEE'S EXPENSES</u>			
Chairman	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<u>BADGE PAYMENTS</u>			
Badge Purchases	30.00		19.00
Totals	<u>30.00</u>		<u>19.00</u>
<u>SUNDRY PAYMENTS</u>			
Leaving Gifts	40.00		0.00
World Scout Jamboree	0.00		1,485.00
Others, Website, Flags	235.86		219.52
Totals	<u>275.86</u>		<u>1,704.52</u>
<u>EXTERNAL ACTIVITY PAYMENTS</u>			
Ghana Trip	4,194.13		
Totals	<u>4,194.13</u>		<u>0.00</u>
District Treasurer - Sub Totals	<u>5,303.85</u>	<u>1,385.50</u>	<u>3,441.45</u>
District Treasurer - Total		<u>6,689.35</u>	<u>3,441.45</u>
<u>DISTRICT SECTION ACCOUNTS</u>			
Beavers		0.00	0.00
Forge Explorers		1,473.52	2,733.74
Forge Network		0.00	0.00
SAS		0.00	61.86
TOTAL PAYMENTS FOR THIS YEAR		<u>8,162.87</u>	<u>6,237.05</u>

DRONFIELD DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
Statement of Assets & Liabilities at 31 March 2025

	This year	Previous Year
	2024/2025	2023/2024
	£.pp	£.pp
<u>MONETARY ASSETS. (Bank and Cash Funds)</u>		
Mansfield Building Society	1,001.25	977.63
Co-Operative Community Account	11,626.83	11,362.41
Co-Operative Savings Account	6,027.25	
Cash in Hand - Treasurer	0.00	0.00
District Treasurer	18,655.33	12,340.04
<u>Totals.</u>	<u>18,655.33</u>	<u>12,340.04</u>

OTHER MONETARY ASSETS

Interest Accrued	12.72	18.68
Gift Aid	0.00	0.00
Garage Rental	30.00	25.00
Remembrance Day	0.00	0.00
<u>Totals</u>	<u>42.72</u>	<u>43.68</u>

NON-MONETARY ASSETS

Buildings. (Insured Value)	14,336.00	14,000.00
Scouting Equipment etc. (Insured Value)	32,424.00	32,250.00
Badge Secretary's Stock (at cost)	378.00	421.40
<u>Totals</u>	<u>47,138.00</u>	<u>46,671.40</u>

LIABILITIES

Electricity Debit Balance (April 2024)	42.03	95.50
Outstanding Water Bill	6.63	0.31
<u>Totals</u>	<u>48.66</u>	<u>95.81</u>

CONTINGENT LIABILITIES and FUTURE OBLIGATIONS

Rent Payable at £5.00 per annum for remaining years of 99 years lease (from September 1984) on Wreakes Lane.
 Building and Contents Insurance (Ecclesiastical Insurance) x8 payments of £49.90 (£399.20)
 District Beavers account balance; £532.94 (monies held in CO-OP account)
 District Forge Explorers balance; £4494.2 (monies held in CO-OP account)
 Forge Network account balance; £215.69 (monies held in CO-OP account)

Auxiliary accounts for group Explorer sections; 3rd Holmesfield Explorers, Samurai & Boscage Explorers are managed by 3rd Holmesfield, 7th Dronfield and 6th Eckington Groups respectively.



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

Charity Name
Dronfield District Scout Council

On accounts for the year ended

31st March 2025

Charity no (if any)

515849

Set out on pages

1 to 4

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 / 03 / 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act.
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

George Anthony Sidall

Date:

8.8.25

Name:

GEORGE ANTHONY SIDALL

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

Address:

NESFIELD HOUSE

BARLOW, DRONFIELD

S18 7TB

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

[Empty box for disclosure details]