

# Trustees' Annual Report

For the period

From (start date) 0 1 9 2 2 to end date 3 1 9 2 3

## Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name: 1st Inch Scout Group

Other names the charity is known by:

Registered charity number (if any): 1 0 4 1 1 8

HQ registration number:

Charity's principal address:  
 Church Of Ireland Hall  
 Greystown Road  
 Downpatrick, Co Down  
 Postcode: BT 3 0 6 A Z

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity  
 (These will be published in the annual report of the charity and the Charity Register if reporting for a Registered Charity with a charity regulator)

Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
1 David Cockfield		
2 Mrs Dawn Stocking		
3 Mr Ben Bayley		
4 Mr Philip Gallagher		
5 Ms Deldra Pim		
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Names and addresses of advisers (optional information but encouraged as best practice)  
 (These will be published in the annual report of the charity)

Type of advisor	Name	Address
Auditor	Norman Stewart	

## Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (e.g. trust deed, constitution):  
 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 (e.g. trust, association, company):  
 The Group is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Scouts.

Trustee selection methods (e.g. appointed by, elected by):  
 The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.

Additional governance issues (optional information but encouraged as best practice)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:  
 The Group is managed by the Group 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.  
 The Trustee Board consists of the Chair, Treasurer and 3 Trustees.  
 Members of the Trustee Board complete Being a Scouts Trustee learning within the first 6 months of joining the Board.

Policies and procedures adopted for:  
 a) the induction and training of trustees;  
 b) trustees' consideration of major risks and the systems and procedures to manage them  
 This Group Trustee Board exists to make sure the charity is well-managed, risks are assessed and mitigated, buildings and equipment are in good working order, and everyone follows legal requirements and the organisation's policies and rules. Their support helps other volunteers run high-quality and safe programmes that gives young people skills for life.

Section B	Structure, governance and management (continued)
	<p><b>Risk and Internal Control (Specimen 1)</b> The Group Trustee Board has 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:</p> <p><b>Damage to the building, property and equipment.</b> The Group would request the use of buildings, property and equipment from neighbouring organisations such as the church, community centre and other Scout Groups. Similar reciprocal arrangements exist with these organisations. The Group has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss.</p> <p><b>Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members.</b> The Group through the capitation fees contributes to the Scout Associations national accident insurance policy. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities.</p> <p><b>Reduced income from fund raising.</b> 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 Board could raise the value of subscriptions to increase the income to the group on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently, however it tries to avoid doing this due to Downpatrick being an area of high economic deprivation.</p> <p><b>Reduction or loss of leaders.</b> The group is totally reliant upon 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 of 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.</p> <p><b>Reduction or loss of members.</b> The Group provides activities for all young people aged 5 to 18. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular section of 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.</p> <p><b>Risk and Internal Control (Specimen 2)</b> The group has in place systems of internal controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss, these include 2 signatories for all payments and a comprehensive insurance policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered.</p>

Section C	Objectives and activities
Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document	<p><b>The Purpose of Scouting</b> Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.</p> <p><b>The Values of Scouting</b> As Scouts we are guided by these values:  <b>Integrity</b> - We act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy and loyal.  <b>Respect</b> - We have self-respect and respect for others.  <b>Care</b> - We support others and take care of the world in which we live.  <b>Belief</b> - We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes.  <b>Co-operation</b> - We make a positive difference; we co-operate with others and make friends.</p> <p><b>The Scout Method</b> 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.</p>
Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects	<p>1st Inch Scout Group opened in September 2022 back in the Inch Community Hall with Beavers, Cubs and Scouts.  The programme was started looking at badges and what badges we would be working on this year. Topics and badges covered were Disability Awareness, Teamwork, Safety, Cookery, Arts and Crafts etc to name a few. The programme of normal Wednesday night activities were supplemented by a variety of activities organised at District and County and Northern Ireland as well as offsite activities organised by the group.  Behaviour over the year was excellent and we have been very proud of our cubs and beavers when we have been out and about.  After Easter 2023 – the programme went outdoors to Fodder Woods where our outdoor programme was started. This included some bicycle skills, outdoor yoga, and camp fire cooking.  Beaver Camp was held at Kilmora Parish Church and our annual camp took us to Castlowellan Forest Park – where the cubs and scouts had a brilliant weekend of activities by Life Adventure.</p>
Additional details of the objectives and activities (optional information but encouraged as best practice)	<p>You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• policy on grantmaking;</li> <li>• contribution made by volunteers;</li> <li>• policy on investments.</li> </ul> <p>The entire leadership team consists of volunteers, without whom the Troop simply would not run. They are a wonderful, eclectic group, with varied backgrounds, skills, experiences and personalities, who all delight in seeing the young people in the troop grow and flourish as individuals and within the Scout Movement.  It is important also to acknowledge the parents of the young people, many of whom volunteer regularly, helping with admin, resources, transport, and sometimes even delivering some of the programme where they have skills and passions to share.</p>
Public benefit statement	<p>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.</p>

Section D	Achievements and performance
Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year	<p>1st Inch Scout Group opened in September 2022 back in the Inch Community Hall with Beavers, Cubs and Scouts.  The programme was started looking at badges and what badges we would be working on this year. Topics and badges covered were Disability Awareness, Teamwork, Safety, Cookery, Arts and Crafts etc</p>

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 After Easter 2023 – the programme went outdoors to Fodder Woods where our outdoor programme was started. This included some bicycle skills, outdoor yoga, and camp fire cooking.  
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**Section E Financial Review**

**Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves**  
**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 Group Trustee Board considers that the group should hold a sum equivalent to 6 months running costs, circa £2000. In actuality, the group has historically had a surplus held over from many years previous. The reserve currently sits at circa £10,000.  
  
 The Group held reserves of approximately £10,000 against this at year end. This is above the level/below required for operating expenses. However this can be explained by the fact it existed when the current leadership team and trustee board took office. It is understood to have been built up from prior fundraising activities.

**Quantify and explain any designations**

**Details of any funds materially in deficit (circumstances plus steps to eliminate)**

**Further financial review details (optional information)**

**You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:**

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives;

**Investment Policy (Specimen 1)**  
  
 The Group's Income and Expenditure is very small and as a consequence does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer-term investments such as stocks and shares. The Group has therefore adopted a low risk strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies or The Scout Association's Short Term Investment Service.  
  
 The Group Trustee Board regularly monitors the levels of bank balances and the interest rates received to ensure the group obtains maximum value and income from its banking arrangements. Occasionally this may involve using an account that requires a period of notice before funds may be withdrawn, before doing so the Group Trustee Board considers the cash flow requirements.  
  
**Investment Policy (Specimen 2)**  
  
 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. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies.

**Section F Other Optional Information**

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

**Section G Declaration**

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s) [Signature]

Full name(s) DAVID O'NEILL GROUP SCOUT LEADER

Position (eg Secretary, Chair)

Date 24/06/25