

11th Bridge of Allan Scout Group Trustees' Annual Report

Financial Year to 31st March 2023



11th Bridge of Allan Scout Group is a registered Scottish Charity No. SC035668.
Registered Address: 17 Keir Street, Bridge of Allan, FK9 4AY gsl@bridgeofallanscouts.org.uk

The Executive Committee and OSCR Charity Trustees

The Group's Executive Committee:

GROUP SCOUT LEADER:	JO COOKSON
CHAIRPERSON:	IAIN ROBERTSON
TREASURER:	DUNCAN CARMICHAEL
SECRETARY:	TRACEY MARTIN
SECTION LEADERS:	PAULINE DRUMMOND, FORBES MCKAY KEVIN SIMPSON EUAN KERR ALISON POOLE GWEN WELLS
NOMINATED MEMBER:	JO CHISHOLM

Objectives and activities

As stated in our Constitution, 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.’

We report here on some of the challenges and successes we have had over the course of the year in meeting those objectives.

Trustee recruitment and appointments

We continue to look for interested parties (parents especially) who can help us maintain the Executive team. We are looking for a new Treasurer and Secretary after Duncan and Tracey both indicated their desire to wind up their involvement. We are very grateful to both of them for their four years of service since we started our Executive team formally in 2019. The Executive in particular needs to bolster its Fundraising/Grant Applications activities, and our ‘Comms’. If you’re interested in any of these roles please do get in touch with one of our members.

Chair's Statement

The group continues to attract more interest with new leaders and new members attracted by the positive reputation we have earned in the community.

Our young people have enjoyed a busy year, spending in total 429 nights away!

We are fortunate to have several Scout owned and managed activity centres in the Central belt of Scotland and we've made good use of them this year: our themed **Lochearnhead Station** camp proved very popular in September (and again in May). Beavers, Cubs and Scouts all camped at **Auchengillan** this year and Scouts enjoyed an (indoor) Xmas camp at **Lapwing** in the Gleniffer Hills near Paisley and went skating, and some of the Scouts got places at the Elements of Scouting traditional scouting camp (in the green canvas tents of old!) also at Lapwing. April'22 saw an impressive 9 teams of 3 scouts each provisioning and cooking their own food at the 2 night **Meggernie** Adventure Camp. Our own **Barrwood** campsite played host for the Fun Day and District Camp, and **Invertrossachs** for Splosh for the Cubs, and for our Squirrels and Beavers for an Xmas Activity Day. Finally, Scouts Scotland HQ, **Fordell Firs** (near Dunfermline), was the venue for the Cubs Howling Camp in Sep '22.

Over the course of the year, 8 Squirrels have earned their Chief Scouts Award, as have 13 Beavers (Bronze), 13 Cubs (Silver) and 7 Scouts got their Gold! In all, 1152 badges were earned across all the sections!

In May 2023 the Scouts ran a Coronation Tea Party for the community's older residents, and held a community fun day for local volunteer organisations in the games park.

We were able to raise over £5k for the Group with our annual Fun Day and Craft sales, Sticky Toffee Puddings, Xmas tree delivery and recycling. Generous donations from the Burt family, Round Table, Weir plc and Arnold Clarke brought in another £2600, and Grants have been received to pay for our new set of three large Bell Tents (which have already seen active use on 3 camps), trailer, and for operating the new Autism Provision Unit, 'Rionnagan'.

Another busy year for 11th Bridge of Allan Scout Group.

Financial review

Reserves Policy

The trustees believe that reserves should be a minimum of 3 months normal expenditure to allow for any unexpected costs that arise. ‘Normal’ expenditure is now approximately £40k – giving a reserves target of at least £10k. Reserves at the end of March 2023 were £19,741.



Treasurer’s Report

The Group has run with a healthy surplus of £4,558 in the year. Net subscription income is down on last year, partly due to increased fees from the Scout Association and a further £2k of subscriptions that came in after the financial year end.

A number of grants and some very generous donations have bolstered the group’s accounts and financed the purchase of new equipment and our Rionnagan section’s activities.

Following the group’s transition to charitable status we are now able to reclaim Gift Aid from HMRC. This has netted a further £4,988 of receipts in the year.

Group Accounts

Consolidated Group Accounts

Year ending 31st March:

	See note	2023	2022
<u>Receipts & Payments</u>			
Receipts			
Voluntary Income			
Subscriptions	3a	6,117.45	9,094.00
Donations	3b	2,627.00	167.00
Fund-Raising Activities		5,547.43	3,793.72
Activities			
Camping Fees		11,047.99	13,636.00
Other Events		4,500.00	4,247.50
Badges and Uniform			
Branded Gear		839.50	865.50
Grants Received	3c	9,470.39	5,452.50
Reclaim of Gift Aid		4,988.48	
Investment Income (Bank Interest)			3.23
Legacies			
Proceeds from Investment sales			
Proceeds from asset sales			
Total Receipts		<u>45,138.24</u>	<u>37,259.45</u>
Payments			
Transaction Fees on Receipts		1,071.37	526.52
Costs of Fund Raising		1,718.61	296.50
Activities			
Camping		10,221.85	14,952.91
Other Events		5,300.68	3,742.28
Programme Activities		3,665.48	4,922.76
Badges and Uniform		4,846.74	4,216.36
Branded Gear		912.10	938.71
Premises	4	2,688.00	360.00
Equipment Purchase & Maintenance		7,525.62	4,169.92
Insurance		324.74	230.29
Postage/Stationary		138.96	40.49
Leader Training		200.00	20.00
Other	5	1,066.47	275.52
Grants and Donations made	6	900.00	600.01
Total Payments		<u>40,580.62</u>	<u>35,292.27</u>
Surplus (Deficit) for year		<u>4,557.62</u>	<u>1,967.18</u> (0.00)

Funds

The group maintains a single undesignated general fund for all of its financial transactions and each section maintains a single undesignated general fund for section transactions.

Statement of Balances

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Squirrels	£1,682	£231
Beavers	£3,458	£4,886
Cubs	£3,895	£2,954
Scouts	£6,093	£4,411
Group Council – Undesignated	£3,478	£1,289
Group Council – Restricted	£1,133	£1,370
Net Balance	<u>£19,741</u>	<u>£15,183</u>

Trustees' Remuneration & Expenses

No trustees received remuneration or expenses during the year.

Basis of Accounting

The accounts were prepared on a receipts and payments basis and checked by an independent examiner. A full copy of the accounts are available.

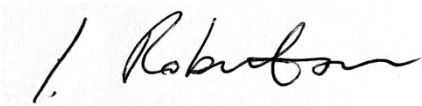
Future plans

The Group has expanded significantly over the past four years and we are now concentrating on delivering a balanced programme across the sections. We continue to look for opportunities to acquire our own Scout Hall. After 2 of our Scouts successfully applied for World Jamboree places, we continue to feed the funnel for International events with Blair Atholl International camp applicants from the group.

As ever, all of this is only possible through the continued recruitment of our volunteer leaders who continue to perform miracles for just 2-hours-a-week of unpaid labour ;-)

Declaration

Signed on behalf of the charity trustees:



Print name

Iain Robertson

Designation

Chairperson

Date

20 August 2023