

11th Bridge of Allan Scout Group Trustees' Annual Report

Financial Year to 31st March 2024



The Executive Committee (no more) ..

The Group's Executive Committee is disbanded effective from the AGM on 26/8/24 in accordance with Scout Association Policy, Organisation and Rules to be replaced with a new Trustee Board. I'd like to thank Tracey and Duncan for their help over the years as Secretary and Treasurer respectively. Also to the section leaders for their contributions and to Jo Chisholm for setting up a refreshed website. 🙏👏👏

The Trustee Board (and OSCR Charity Trustees)

We are lucky to have several parents step forward and be nominated as Trustees and Administrator for election at the AGM on 24/8/24 to the new Board.

NOMINATED FOR TRUSTEE ROLES:

JAN MACDONALD

STEPHEN MURRAY

GARRY STIMPSON

BEN TAYLOR

IAIN ROBERTSON

NOMINATED FOR SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATOR ROLE:

ALISON GURINI

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 another busy year, spending 487 (!) nights away with camps at Lochearnhead Train Station for a French Olympic themed group camp, Barrwood where our Scouts and Cubs made and paddled cardboard boats (/submersibles?) in the reservoir, Lapwing Hobbit Lodges in spring, Lapwing Xmas camp where they succeeded in making an igloo, Fordell for Howling Cub Camp, and Invertrossachs for Brass Monkeys and Cubs Spring camp.

We were able to support a patrol of Explorer Scouts (several of whom are our Young Leaders) with equipment to attend the biennial Blair Atholl International Jamborette and a couple of our Scouts attended the middle weekend Satellite Camp too.



All sections attended the 2023 Gang Show in September, the Remembrance Sunday parade and service, and a Community Orchard tree planting event in March

Over the course of the year, 41 members have earned their Chief Scouts Award! In all, 252 Challenge Badges, and 386 Activity Badges were earned across all the sections!

The young people were able to help us raise over £7k for the Group with our annual Fun Day and Craft sales, Sticky Toffee Puddings, Xmas tree delivery and recycling.

Since I took on the role of Chair in 2017, Forbes and then Jo have managed the Group as it has doubled in size, and Jo in particular over the last 5 years has widened the group further with one of the first Squirrel sections to be opened in Scotland. The volunteer leader team has also grown with that, and with my final opportunity as Chair I would like to thank all of them for making all of this happen.



Financial review

(Acting) Treasurer's Report

The Group has run with a very healthy surplus of £11,379 in the year thanks to fund raising and grants netting over £17k. A further £1.9k has been raised through Gift Aid, and subscriptions from the previous financial year which arrived late have also boosted the income this year. Finally, we have spent less than usual on equipment over the year having boosted our tentage significantly over the last 3 years to cope with the additional demands of running a strong Group catering to over 170 young people.

The Group's ambition to gain a Scout Hut means that we may need access to funds at short notice for surveys, architect drawings and the like so we are saving these surpluses towards this end.



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 range is now in the region of £35- £40k – giving a reserves target of at least £10k. Reserves at the end of March 2024 were £31,121.

Group Consolidated Accounts

Consolidated Group Accounts	Year ending 31st March:		
	See note	2024	2023
Receipts & Payments			
Receipts			
Voluntary Income			
Subscriptions	3a	8,952.50	6,117.45
Donations	3b	1,256.40	2,627.00
Fund-Raising Activities		5,661.01	5,547.43
Activities			
Camping Fees		8,071.00	11,047.99
Other Events		3,123.00	4,500.00
Badges and Uniform			
Branded Gear		1,217.90	839.50
Grants Received	3c	12,840.00	9,470.39
Reclaim of Gift Aid		1,900.76	4,988.48
Investment Income (Bank Interest)			
Legacies			
Proceeds from Investment sales			
Proceeds from asset sales			
Total Receipts		43,022.57	45,138.24
Payments			
Transaction Fees on Receipts		1,141.96	1,071.37
Costs of Fund Raising		1,088.05	968.61
Activities			
Camping		8,064.02	10,221.85
Other Events		7,011.02	5,300.68
Programme Activities		5,672.85	3,665.48
Badges and Uniform		2,429.15	3,604.74
Branded Gear		1,383.40	2,154.10
Premises	4	2,151.85	2,688.00
Equipment Purchase & Maintenance		1,603.86	7,525.62
Insurance		316.06	324.74
Postage/Stationary			138.96
Leader Training		162.04	200.00
Other	5	298.74	1,066.47
Grants and Donations made	6	320.19	1,650.00
Total Payments		31,643.19	40,580.62
Surplus (Deficit) for year		11,379.38	4,557.62
Statement of Balances			
Cash and Bank Balances (Unrestricted) At Year End	1	24,172.47	18,608.02
Cash and Bank Balances (Restricted) At Year End	1	6,948.29	1,133.36
Net Balance At Year End		31,120.76	19,741.38

Future plans

The Group has expanded significantly over the past five 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.

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

26 August 2024