

8th Dartford Scout Group

Report & Accounts

for the year ended 31st March 2025

Trustees: Appointment

Chair	Mr. D. Edwards
Treasurer	Mr. M. O'Sullivan
Secretary	Mrs. G. Boyling
Group Lead Volunteer	Mrs. J. Holford
18-25 Trustee	Mr. J. Dennis
Trustee	Mr. M. Read
Trustee	Mr. J. Clark
Trustee	Mr K. Holford

Trustees: Elected

Mr. R. Holford
Mr. K. Holford
Mr. B. Parker

Bankers:

H.S.B.C.
High Street, Dartford, Kent

Group/District Reg. Number with Scout Assn: 9661

Charity Registration Number: 303372

Contact Name and Address:

Mr. D. Edwards

Bexley

8th Dartford Scout Group

Trustees Annual Report

for the year ended 31st March 2025

Chairperson's Report

The past year has been very successful with significant investment through the Youth Investment Fund grant.

The £120,000 that was made available by the Government has enabled improvements to the building with a new roof, disabled friendly toilets, baby changing facilities, heating and lighting and making us more sustainable with solar power. The range of activities that can be offered include a new bouldering wall and the opportunity to undertake archery and rifle shooting activities. One of the items that has proved most difficult has been adapting the access from the street, there has been for a long time an ambition to improve wheelchair access and improve security around the front entrance, the platform lift is now in place although there is still more to do.

As always none of this is possible without the time and energy that as volunteers we put into the 8th Dartford Scout Group. Whether this is as part of one of the many work groups who have done so much to maintain and improve the site and security and the volunteers, parents and carers supporting the sections and the wide range of activities that take place. A special mention must be given to Kelvin Holford who alongside his work with the sections has also made himself available on site throughout the year to work with the various contractors to get the improvements completed.

The last year has also been a period of transition for the 8th Dartford Scout Group in the way that we operate; as we have been required by the Scout Association to form a new Trust. This is based around a small number of Trustees and separately parent and section representatives on the Management Committee. We have all had to take on new responsibilities including a new constitution, plus improvements to get all the beavers, cubs, scouts and explorers on to the new online scout manager system and develop a new website for the Group.

Financially the Group is in a strong position as there have been reserves that have built up steadily in the past. However, we are now in a position where over the past two years regular expenditure has exceeded the income received. With for example, over two thirds of the income received from subs going to the Scout Association to register and cover each child and young person, the day to day running fees for the Hut and activities etc. having to be met from what remains. This is something we will need to look at further in the coming year to look at how we can get back to a position where income meets expenditure, the income generated from selling the surplus electric from the new solar panels will help.

We are keen to engage even more with the local community that we support and hopefully in the next 12 months links with local schools and businesses will also be strengthened. There is also the opportunity for parents and carers to get involved with the Management Committee and as Trustees as your skills, input and ideas are essential to keep us improving. If you want to know more about what is involved please speak to me, any of the Trustees or the section leads.

In concluding I would also like to say thank you to Martin O'Sullivan who has served as the Treasurer for the Group for over 20 years. He moved away some time ago and has continued to support the Group on a wide range of financial aspects and the formal reporting to the Charities Commission, which has been very much appreciated. I wish Martin the very best for the future and also to Eddie McNamara who has been independently reviewing the accounts for the past 20 years and is also retiring from his role.

Finally, thank you all for your ongoing support to the 8th Dartford (Holy Trinity) Scout Group.

David Edwards
Group Chairperson, 8th Dartford Scout Group

8th Dartford Scout Group

Trustees Annual Report (continued)

for the year ended 31st March 2025

Beaver Section Report

This year, the Beaver Scouts have had another exciting and activity-filled year.

We took part in some successful fundraising, starting with our annual Macmillan Coffee Evening, which we hosted alongside the Cubs and raised £160. We also organised a Red Nose Day games evening, raising £35 for Comic Relief.

They participated in the first Trail Jam hosted by Dartford due to JOTT ending, and they thoroughly enjoyed a night's stay at Buckmore Park, which was a fantastic adventure for many of them.

We introduced a height chart this year to track how much our Beavers grow during their time with us—a fun way to see their progress. We also enjoyed a walk around Brookland Lakes, observing the local wildlife and connecting with nature.

As part of our programme, we explored various international and cultural events, including:

Christmas crafts and party with the Cubs

Halloween party

Firework night with sparklers

Burns Night, where we held a mini version of the Highland Games and enjoyed Scotch pancakes

Chinese New Year, learning about the animal of the year and enjoying fortune cookies

Learning about the different Patron Saints

Pancake Day, with cooking and a fun relay race involving pancake flipping

We started the year with 14 Beavers and finished with 12, with 2 Beavers moving up to Cubs.

A big thank you goes to Jill and Ella for their continued hard work and dedication in running the programme and making sure we have everything for the evening each week.

Thank you all for your support over the past year.

Trudi Tucker Martin

8th Dartford Scout Group

Trustees Annual Report (continued)

for the year ended 31st March 2025

Cub Section Report

In the first term, we visited the Dartford Council Building for a tour and for the cubs to have a chance to question the mayor. We then visited the Dartford fire station where the cubs had the opportunity to ask the fire crews questions and have a go with a small fire hose, as part of their fire safety activity badge. In June we had our Cub camp for 2 nights, with the beavers joining for one, at Buckmore Scout Camp site, with the cubs having a go at mountain biking and caving.

In September we once again help a Mcmillan coffee evening with the rest of the 8th and raised £160.00.

In November, we had a weekend sleepover at Scout House. Where the cubs completed their backwards cooking activity badge. As well as a range of games/activities including a tower building competition, bingo and a quiz.

We attended the Remembrance Day service at the war memorial.

In December, the cubs visited West Hill Care Home to do knots and sing songs with the residences. We also had our yearly craft night, and Christmas party the following week. The Cubs were able to achieve their artist badge and enjoy lots of games. This would not have gone as well as it had without the assistance of the parents/guardians who stayed to help.

In February we had a sleepover at our Scout Hall completing their Chef and Entertainer Activity badges, as well as the Air activities stage 1 badge.

We did our Red Nose beetle drive and raised funds for Sports Relief.

We have finished the year with 19 cubs. With several achieving their silver awards, after completing all 7 of their challenge awards and a range of activity badges.

I would like to say a big thank you to Jill, Kelvin, Paula, Mia and Jude who have looked after the cubs and whose involvement in 8th Dartford Scouting has allowed the young members to experience new things. Also, to the parents/guardians for stepping in to help when asked and Lewis and Rowena the young leaders who are helping with cubs

David White

8th Dartford Scout Group

Trustees Annual Report (continued)

for the year ended 31st March 2025

Scout Section Report

During the reporting year the Scout Group numbers have remained stable, with several cubs joining and more of the scouts joining Jude and Rowena in Explorers.

The Leadership Team continues to deliver a well-balanced programme of learning and fun, through challenges, games and team building exercises. Scouts have been working towards their challenge badges with the goal of reaching their Chief Scout Award, and it is hoped that all Scouts in the section will complete this award before moving on to Explorers.

Our Scout Meetings were split between the Scout Hall, Oakfield Park and Joydens Wood, to make full use of the lighter evenings in the summer and early autumn.

As in previous years, the Scouts took part in both the St Georges Day Parade in April, and the town's Remembrance Day Parade in November.

This year, as there were doubts about an officially organised JOTT, or similar, we spent a weekend at Hope Hill and carried out an expedition challenge involving two trails looping around Meopham. Fortunately, this qualified for both the challenge badge and the District trail badge.

We were also able to field a strong team for the District annual shooting competition, held at 5th Dartford. We came away with an individual 3rd place certificate and some happy memories of an enjoyable day.

We always try and do a fun event just before Christmas and this period we went 10-pin bowling at Bexleyheath which was great fun, and well received by the Scouts and Explorers.

A huge thank you to all the people who have helped and supported the section during this year. Rowena and Jude, our Explorers, were fantastic support in the running of our weekly meetings. Mia, Lauren and Caitlin for their support throughout the year. Finally - The section would not have run without the committed support of uniformed leaders Gavin, Gordon and Rachael who have given committed service to the section for many years. It was during this year that we said our good-byes to Gavin who has served our Group for nearly thirty years in a Leadership role. His enthusiasm, experience and commitment will be missed, but we wish him well for the future. For the remaining half of this year we have been fortunate, and very grateful, to have additional support from Kelvin and Jill

Julian Clark

Approved by the Trustees on

And signed on their behalf by

8th Dartford Scout Group

Receipts & Payments Account Summary for the year ended 31st March 2025

	This Year	Previous Year
	£	£
Total receipts for the year	110,260.59	19,326.92
Total payments for the year	<u>99,974.11</u>	<u>21,439.25</u>
Net receipts (payments) for the year	10,286.48	(2,112.33)
Cash, bank and similar funds brought forward	<u>37,990.76</u>	<u>40,103.09</u>
Cash, bank and similar funds carried forward	48,277.24	37,990.76

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

And signed on their behalf by

8th Dartford Scout Group

Receipts

for the year ended 31st March 2025

	This Year	Previous Year
	£	£
MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS	4,710.00	4,555.00
Less Paid	<u>2,750.00</u>	<u>3,037.50</u>
Net receipts (payments) for the year	1,960.50	1,517.50
INVESTMENT INCOME RECEIVED		
Bank Interest	900.99	272.03
Building Society Interest	-	-
The Scout Assoc'n Short-Term Investment Service	-	-
Dividends and Interest	<u>-.</u>	<u>-.</u>
	900.99	272.03
DONATIONS	35.00	313.00
GRANTS – Youth Investment Fund (YIF)	106,081.60	13,382.39
ACTIVITIES		
Camps	1,283.00	3,320.00
Others	<u>-</u>	<u>360.00</u>
	1,283.00	3,680.00
FUND RAISING	-	-
OTHER INCOME		
Capitation Refund	-	-
Income Tax Recovered –		
on subscriptions and donations	-	-
on dividends and interest	<u>-</u>	<u>-.</u>
	-	-
SUNDRY RECEIPTS		
Other	-	122.00
Drinks & Sweets	-	-
Badge	<u>-</u>	<u>40.00</u>
	-	162.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR	<u>110,260.59</u>	<u>19,326.92</u>

8th Dartford Scout Group

Payments

for the year ended 31st March 2025

	This Year	Previous Year
	£	£
PREMISES		
Rent	-	-
Rates – Water	490.53	275.50
Light & Heat	602.13	498.73
Insurance	1,066.22	978.54
Repairs & Renewals - General	2,137.15	1,535.59
Repairs & Renewals - YIF Grant	<u>82,190.61</u>	<u>13,382.39</u>
	86,486.64	16,670.75
 DONATIONS/GRANTS	 -	 -
 ACTIVITIES		
Camps	1,175.83	3,190.17
Others	<u>262.43</u>	<u>792.38</u>
	1,438.26	3,982.55
 FUND RAISING EXPENSES	 -	 -
 ADMIN/ESTABLISHMENT EXPENSES		
Training	-	-
 TRUSTEE EXPENSES - Legal	 -	 -
 OTHER EXPENSES	 -	 -
 PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT		
Tents	1,258.75	-
Bouldering, Shooting, Archery – YIF Grant	<u>9,463.17</u>	<u>-</u>
	10,721.92	-
 SUNDRY PAYMENTS		
Other	1,021.48	290.96
Badge	305.81	494.99
Loans received	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	1,327.29	785.95
 TOTAL PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	 <u>99,974.11</u>	 <u>21,439.25</u>

8th Dartford Scout Group

Statement of Assets & Liabilities

At 31st March 2025

	This Year	Previous Year
	£	£
MONETARY ASSETS Cash, bank and similar funds		
Bank Current Account	1,856.48	2,060.45
Bank Deposit Account	30,682.84	35,272.03
Bank Deposit Account (YIF Grant funds)	15,168.00	-
Building Society Account	-	-
The Scout Assoc'n Short-Term Investment Service	-	-
Cash in hand	<u>569.92</u>	<u>658.28</u>
	48,277.24	37,990.76
OTHER MONETARY ASSETS		
Tax Claim for Year Ending 31 March 2006	-	-
Debts Due to Group/District	-	-
INVESTMENT ASSETS		
Government Stocks at Market Value	-	-
Other quoted securities at Market Value	-	-
Other investments	-	-
Property held for investment purposes	-	-
NON-MONETARY ASSETS Assets for Charity's own use		
Land and Buildings	£ 200,000	
Motor Vehicles/Trailer	£ 500	
Scouting Equipment, furniture etc	£ 13,000	
LIABILITIES Those due within one year		
Accounts not yet paid – Summer Camp receipts	-	-
Expenses not yet invoiced	-	-
Subscriptions not yet paid	-	-
Groundworks, Lift & Gates – YIF Grant expense	15,168.00	-
Other	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	15,168.00	-
LIABILITIES Those payable after one year		
Loan (with details)	-	-
Hire Purchase owing	-	-
Leasing payments outstanding	-	-
Other long term liabilities	-	-
CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND FUTURE OBLIGATIONS		

8th Dartford Scout Group

Scrutineer's Report to the Trustees

I report on the accounts of the Group for the year ended 31st March 2025

Respective responsibility of Trustees and Scrutineer

As the Group's Trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that neither the audit nor independent examination requirements of the Charities Act 1993 apply. It is my responsibility without carrying out an audit or independent examination to scrutinise the accounts and to report to you.

Basis of Scrutineer's Statement

In accordance with the directions given in the Group's constitution, I have scrutinised the records and the accounts set out on pages 7 to 10.

Scrutineer's Statement

In my opinion the accounts are in accordance with the records produced to me and comply with the constitution.

Name: EDWARD STEPHEN MCNAMARA .

Address: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

HERTFORDSHIRE

[REDACTED]

Date: 8th MAY 2025

[REDACTED]

E. S. MCNAMARA MAAT FCCA .