

18th St Albans Scout Group

Report and Accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2024

Group/District Registration Number with Scout Association: 27987

Charity Registration Number: 1032693

18th St Albans Scout Group

Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

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Officers advisers and contact details:

Trustees:

Victoria Magee (Chair)
Charles Whitehead (Treasurer)
Stephen Larkworthy
Kathryn Hughes
Sarah Burgess

Bankers:

Santander UK plc

Contact details:

website: www.18th-stalbans-scout-group.org.uk
email: info@18th-stalbans-scouts.org.uk

Our troops:

Our troops email addresses, and websites where
available

Hall Heath Beavers

hall-heath-beavers@18th-stalbans-scouts.org.uk

Wick Wood Beavers

wick-wood-beavers@18th-stalbans-scouts.org.uk

Douthwaite Cubs

douthwaite-cubs@18th-stalbans-scouts.org.uk

Homewood Cubs

Cubs18thhomewood@gmail.com

Aquila Scouts

scout.leader@aquila.18th-stalbans-scouts.org.uk
www.aquila.scout-troop.org.uk

Tyler Scouts

tyler-scouts@18th-stalbans-scouts.org.uk
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Trustees Report

The Trustees are pleased to present their combined annual report and the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 which have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the note to these accounts. The Trustees, and other administrative details are shown on page 2.

Governance, Structure and Management

Governance	<p>The 18th St Albans Scout Group is governed by a number of volunteer trustees who carry out various roles from Chair, secretary, treasurer and quartermaster to section leaders and other volunteers. The trustees meet bimonthly to discuss all matters pertaining to the group as well as holding an AGM annually where the accounts are reviewed and approved.</p> <p>The main duty of the trustees is to advance the purpose of the scouting as well as the enforce the policy of the Scout Association to safeguard the welfare of its members.</p>
Structure	<p>The group is split into six sections made up of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• two scout troops (Aquila and Tyler) for children aged 10 ½ to 14,• two cub packs (Homewood and Douthwaite) for children aged 8 to 10 ½• two beaver colonies (Wickwood and Hall Heath) for children aged 6 to 8.
Leadership team	<p>Each section is run by section leaders, assistants and young leaders and is made up entirely of volunteers who enjoy running scout meetings, activities and camps! All adult leaders have training and a DBS check, and there is always one adult who is first aid qualified</p> <p>If you would like the opportunity to do something you'd never thought of doing, while having lots of fun and giving back to the community at the same time, please get in touch – we can always do with more volunteers! You don't have to be an expert in all-things-scouting – the only essential ingredient is wanting to have fun scouting!</p>

Purpose, Values, and the Scout Method

Purpose	Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.
Values	<p>As scouts we are guided by these values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Integrity - we act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy and loyal.• Respect - we have self-respect and respect for others.• Care - we support others and take care of the world in which we live.• Belief - we explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes.• Co-operation - we make a positive difference; we cooperate with others and make friends.
The Scout Method	<p>Scouting takes place when young people, in partnership with adults, work together based on the values of Scouting and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• enjoy what they are doing and have fun;• take part in activities indoors and outdoors;• learn by doing;• share in spiritual reflection;

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- take responsibility and make choices;
- undertake new and challenging activities; and
- make and live by their Promise.

Financial Review

Income	<p>Income from subscriptions increased to £22,859 (2023: £20,997); this was largely due to a 10% increase in subscriptions from £50 per child per term to £55 in September 2023. Income from camping and other activities increased to £15,626 (£11,439) following a full programme of camping activities as well as reflecting the inflationary environment we operate in.</p> <p>Other income amounts to £720, which is the annual fee for St Albans explorers for access to the scout hut facilities.</p>
Expenditure	<p>Expenditure increased to £39,128 (2023: £32,851) mainly as a result an increase in expenses and camping costs with costs amounting to £22,305 (2023: £16,339).</p> <p>Repairs and refurbishment increased to £4,254 (2023: £3,003) mainly as a result of increased cost of monthly deep cleaning of the scout premises which the executive agreed would be sensible to keep in place post covid pandemic until such time when a cheaper alternative could be found.</p>
Net deficit and cash balance	<p>The trustees note that the group operated at a loss of £7,095 (2023: £5,144). This was mainly as a result of cleaning expenses amounting to over £3,000 per year, increased repairs of £4,254 (2023: £3,003), increasing cost of capitation amounting to £10,046 (2023: £9,381) and purchase / repair of equipment amounting to £551 (2023: £99)</p> <p>The group has a healthy cash balance of £51,453 (2023: £57,871) at the year end and accrued income of £10,833 in respect of gift aid receivable for the last four financial years.</p>
Property lease	<p>The lease on the land where the Scout Hut is situated in the Wick expires in March 2025 and discussions are ongoing with St Albans District council to renew.</p>
Going concern and the future	<p>The group has a very healthy cash balance of £51,453 at March 2024. The cash balance at the date of this report is of a similar value. Notwithstanding that, the group aims to get back to a break even status in future years. The cleaning contract has now been cancelled and replaced with a volunteer parent rota which will save c£3,000 per annum (annualised) and subscription fees were increased again in September 2024 from £55 to £60 per child per term to reflect the inflationary environment we have been operating in over the last two years. This should generate c£2,500 per annum in additional subscriptions.</p>

The trustees know of no reason why the charity would not be in a position to operate as a going concern in the 12 months from the date of these accounts being approved.

This report was approved by the Trustees. Signed on their behalf 21st January 2025 by:

Charles Whitehead
Trustee and treasurer

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Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the 18th St. Albans Scout Group

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the 18th St Albans Scout Group for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the 18th St Albans Scout Group 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 18th St Albans Scouts Group 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the 18th St Albans Scout Group as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.



Nicholas Latham FCA

14 Churchill Road, St Albans, AL1 4HQ

21st January 2025

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		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
				2024	2023
Notes		£	£	£	£
Income:					
Membership income:					
Subscriptions		22,859	-	22,859	20,997
less: capitation paid		(10,046)	-	(10,046)	(9,381)
		12,813	-	12,813	11,616
Donations and grants		30	-	30	27
Gift Aid		2,625	-	2,625	3,150
Investment income: bank interest		219	-	219	59
Camping and Activities fees		15,626	-	15,626	11,439
Other income		720	-	720	1,416
Total Income		32,033	-	32,033	27,707
Expenditure:					
Premises	2	(3,134)	(7,555)	(10,689)	(9,254)
Equipment	3	(873)	-	(873)	(547)
Section activities and expenses	4	(27,566)	-	(27,566)	(23,050)
Total expenditure		(31,573)	(7,555)	(39,128)	(32,851)
Net Income/(Expenditure) before transfers		460	(7,555)	(7,095)	(5,144)
Transfers between funds		(4,000)	4,000	-	-
Net movement in funds for the year		(3,540)	(3,555)	(7,095)	(5,144)
Total Funds brought forward		20,769	48,611	69,380	74,524
Total funds carried forward		17,229	45,056	62,285	69,380

The notes on pages 8 to 10 form part of these accounts.

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Balance Sheet

	Notes	Total 2024	Total 2023
		£	£
Fixed assets			
Buildings	6	-	3,301
		-	3,301
Current Assets			
Debtors and accrued income	7	10,833	8,208
Cash at bank and in hand:			
Bank deposit accounts		22,952	22,733
Bank current accounts		28,500	35,138
		62,285	66,079
Net Current Assets		62,285	66,079
Total Assets		62,285	69,380
Funds	8		
Unrestricted: General Fund		17,229	20,769
Restricted funds:			
Building fund		45,056	48,611
Total Funds		62,285	69,380

Approved by the Trustees and signed 21st January 2025 on their behalf by:

Charles Whitehead
Treasurer

The notes on pages 8 to 10 form part of these accounts

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Notes to the Financial Statements

1. Accounting Policies

a) Basis of preparation

These accounts have been drawn up on an accruals basis, which is consistent with the previous year.

b) Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting by Charities".

c) Depreciation

Provision for depreciation of fixed assets held for use by the charity is made at annual rates calculated to spread the cost (less anticipated residual disposal value) of each asset evenly over its expected useful life.

The depreciation rates currently in use are at the following rates:

- Buildings: 4% per annum on a straight-line basis to reflect the 25 year lease
- Equipment is written off in the year in which it is purchased

d) Government Grants

Income from Government grants, including local authorities, is recognised in the period for which they are received.

2. Premises

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Rent	75		75	75
Water Rates	451		451	351
Light & Heat	1,656		1,656	1,656
General Insurance (inc premises)	952		952	877
Repairs & Refurbishment	-	4,254	4,254	3,003
Depreciation	-	3,301	3,301	3,292
	3,134	7,555	10,689	9,254

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3. Equipment

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Insurance	322	-	322	448
Repairs and renewals	551	-	551	99
	873	-	873	547

4. Section activities and expenses

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Expenses	7,856		7,856	5,775
Camping costs	14,449		14,449	10,564
Scout shop	2,620		2,620	1,710
Other activities	2,641		2,641	5,001
	27,566	-	27,566	23,050

5. Staff and trustee costs

There were no staff; all services received are provided by volunteers. No Trustee received any remuneration for this year and no relevant expenses were reimbursed to Trustees for this year.

6. Fixed Assets: buildings

	Cost	Depreciation	Net	2023
	£	£	£	
Brought forward	82,303	(79,002)	3,301	6,593
Depreciation		(3,301)	(3,301)	(3,292)
Carried forward	82,303	(82,303)	-	3,301

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Buildings comprise the Scout Hut on leasehold land in the Wick which expires in March 2025. The lease renewal is under negotiation with St Albans District Council

7. Debtors

The amounts included in debtors is accrued income in respect of Gift Aid receivable for the last four financial years

8. Movements In Funds

	1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	31 March 2024
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund	20,769	32,033	(31,573)	(4,000)	17,229
Restricted funds:					
Building	48,611	-	(7,555)	4,000	45,056
Total funds	69,380	32,033	(39,128)	-	62,285