

# ECCLESTON SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales · Charity number 1181375

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Other

**Registered** 2018-12-28

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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PR7 5SY

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**Website** [www.ecclestonscouts.uk](http://www.ecclestonscouts.uk)

## Activities

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**Objects:** TO PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN ACHIEVING THEIR FULL PHYSICAL,INTELLECTUAL,SOCIAL AND SPIRITUAL POTENTIALS,AS INDIVIDUALS AS RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS AND AS MEMBERS OF THEIR LOCAL NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITIES.

**Activities:** Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people empowering them to make a positive contribution to society. Eccleston Scout Group facilitates this in our local community.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People

## Geography

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- Lancashire

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£43,951	£38,377	-	-
2024-08-31	£40,564	£31,724	-	-
2023-08-31	£26,659	£42,600	-	-
2022-08-31	£24,094	£15,496	-	-
2021-08-31	£9,177	£5,448	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Michael Taylor</b>	Chair	2018-10-12
Alison Jane Kirby Dip PFS		2018-10-12
Jane Tracey Taylor		2018-10-12
PAULINE ELTON		2018-10-12
Paul James Kirby		2018-10-12

**ECCLESTON SCOUT GROUP**

England & Wales - Charity number 1181375

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# Accounts

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# 365 DAYS OF ADVENTURE. HERE'S WHAT HAPPENED...

**Eccleston Scout Group**

**Annual Report 2025**



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## Report from the Chair

Welcome to the annual report for Ecclestone Scout Group. As we look back on 2024/25 we have again had a great year with Family Camp, Group Camp, Operation Twilight etc, and continue to grow.

Our maintenance programmes continue to deliver the planned improvements to the Scout Hut to enable the health and safety of all our young people, leaders, and others who hire out the Scout Hut for much needed revenue. We really are very fortunate as a Group to have such a great asset as the building and the outdoor area at the back, but it does come with a cost of time, effort, and of course money. Once again, the appeal goes out to all the Scout community (and yes parents – that means you) to get involved when we publicise events and support all of us in this endless range of activities.

Once again, the Trustee Board puts on record the whole Group's thanks and appreciation of our operational leadership team - led by Alison - but again the success of the Group depends on having the leaders who give so much of their spare time to lead all the Sections. I encourage all of you to get involved where you can – we need the support of everyone in the community if we are to carry on growing – it really is very rewarding – honest.

As ever, the Trustee Board have worked hard to support Alison and the leaders. We meet quarterly to make sure that Group governance, and issues which support the various Sections of ESG, are kept on track and pushed forward to completion. I would like to formally put on record my thanks to the Trustees and other nominated members who continue to support me, and in turn support Alison, the leaders, and the whole of ESG.

The 2024/25 ESG Trustee Board and Group leadership teams were:

Trustee Board	Leaders	Young Leaders
Mike Taylor - Chair	Lyndsey Pennington - Squirrels	Matt Dewhurst - Beavers
Jane Taylor - Secretary	Hannah Hunter - Squirrels	Matt Slater - Cubs
Pauline Elton - Treasurer	Janet Lawson-Marsden - Squirrels	Molly Pennington - Squirrels
Alison Kirby - GLV	Andrew Hough - Squirrels	Emily Savage - Squirrels
Paul Kirby - Scout Leader	Amy Musgrove - Squirrels	Matthew Cleasby - Beavers
Phil Metge - Quartermaster	Jayne Elliot - Squirrels	George Aspinall - Cubs
Andy Counce – Explorer Leader	Alison Kirby - Beavers	
	Sarah Clifford - Beavers and Scouts	
	Jane Taylor - Beavers	
	Chris Cote - Beavers	
	Diane Dewhurst - Beavers	
	Alison Riley - Cubs	
	Steve Mellor - Cubs	
	Ryan Ashton - Cubs	
	Natalie Bidder - Cubs	
	Paul Kirby - Scouts	
	Dave Cousins - Scouts	
	Nicola Williams - Scouts	
	Russ Clifford - Scouts	

Happy Scouting - Mr T.

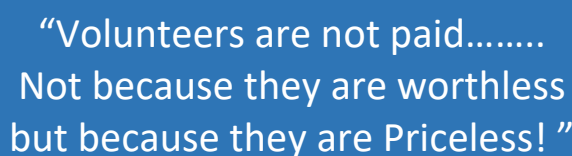
## Group Lead Volunteer Report

I think the best way to describe last year for me was a blur .....

We did all the usual things but it just went so fast !!

The Trustee Board continue to support me with the regulatory, technical, HQ maintenance and much more. Their hard work ensures the smooth running of the group behind the scenes. This year we have spent time looking at the Group Structure, Leader recruitment and juggling a still large waiting list. Saying that I do think we have now settled into a new normal with 2 thriving units at each age group and our numbers sitting at the highest they have ever been at 140 young people all enjoying a full and active programme learning life skills along the way, sometimes without even realising it.

This of course is only possible with the amazing leadership team that give up their time not only on meeting nights, but in the preparation and providing camps and trips.



“Volunteers are not paid.....  
Not because they are worthless  
but because they are Priceless! ”

A huge THANK YOU !!

This years highlights ..... first thought must go to the opening of our second Squirrel Drey and beyond that all the amazing trips and camps - Group Camp (x2!), Family Camp, Panto, Twilight and much more.

I say each year that I don't often look back as there is always something to move onto and organise. Yet again looking at the section reports gives me the opportunity to remember how much fun the kids and leaders have and how much they have learnt. Knowing also what they have to look forward to as they move up through the sections.

I know we aren't talking about it yet but 2026 is the year we take the Scouts and Explorers on our international trip to Kandersteg (KISC) take a look at the pictures in the hall you can just see how amazing the opportunity is.

As always we will also hold our breath as to who will be awarded; Squirrel, Beaver, Cub and Scout of the Year. I don't want to spoil the surprise by naming them here, but an amazing achievement for those who receive these awards.

Each section is working hard to develop life skills and confidence within the Young People to prepare them to move to the next section, the next adventure and ultimately towards their Chief Scout Awards. This year we've seen an amazing number of top awards – Congratulations

<b>Squirrels</b>	<b>BEAVERS</b>	<b>cubs</b>	<b>SCOUTS</b>
			
<b>Acorn Award</b>	<b>Bronze Award</b>	<b>Silver Award</b>	<b>Gold Award</b>
Oscar Houghton	Max Faris	Nye Thorpe	Imogen Coleman
Henry Vinden	Eryn Allen	Alexander Riley	
Matthew Mason	Oaklen Thorpe	Thomas Tuson	
Harry King	William Millington	James Ross	
	Peter Traynor	Christopher Baron	
	Henry Houghton		
	Lewis Thompson		
	George Atherton		

I am reminded within so many areas of life the benefits of Scouting for young people and how their membership to Scouts really does put them in front of the game when it comes to applying for further education, jobs and other opportunities. Seeing them progress and receiving requests for references from some amazing places - I feel proud of every one of them.

I do hope you will continue to help and support us through into 2026. I'm looking forward to it already!

Yours in Scouting

*Alison (Rainbow)*



## Squirrels Report

# Squirrels

Well what can we say about the last year..... we started with one drey and then.... A second squirrel drey opened! We now have Squirrels on both Tuesday & Wednesday nights. It's been jam packed year with lots of activities, trips and badges earned.

We have been on lots of trips including a farm visit, panto and of course the group camp day Squirrels got to attend. The Squirrels enjoyed joining in with all the older units and getting stuck in with archery, orienteering, crate stacking to name just a few activities we were busy with. Some of the Squirrels attended the Beaver Christmas sleepover last year and enjoyed the under the sea theme.

We have loved being outside at any opportunity from visiting the lambs & piglets in the spring, to local walks in the village, litter picks and the park in the summer months and s'mores round the fire in the autumn.

They may be the youngest section, but we have always looked smart and worn big smiles when carrying our flag at Walking Day & Remembrance Parade (even if we do need to work on our straight lines).

We have achieved lots of badges this year from Go Wild, Super Chef & All Around Us. Squirrels have earned their Let's Celebrate badge by celebrating everything from Chinese New Year, Mother's Day, St George's Day and of course Christmas! We have had visits from Guide Dogs, a Nurse and our very own Beekeeper, Wiley, to learn about our local Superhero's. We are very proud of how many Chief Acorn Awards have been achieved in 24/25 and how much our Squirrels have grown!



## Beavers Report

### Winter Term 2024

We had a busy term to start the year. A lot of our Beavers attended Group Camp with loads of activities like kayaking and a cave bus, and campfire songs. Lots of campfire songs! The rest of the term saw the Beavers making things – rocky road (yum), junk models, a poppy wreath for remembrance parade and poppy biscuits, our own pizzas from scratch, angels for the local angel festival and snowmen in a jar. The term was finished off with a sleepover in the Scout Hut.



### Spring Term 2025

This term started with a trip to the pantomime on the District trip. Oh, yes, it did! The Beavers made tin-can telephones and learned to read maps, and planted some flowers into pots for Mothers' Day. We had an exciting trip to Leyland Fire Station where the Beavers got to use the fire hoses, and no Scouting term would be complete without toasting marshmallows to make S'mores.

### Summer Term 2025

A few of our Beavers attended Family Camp at Waddecar with their families, trying activities such as climbing, whittling and Badgers' Warren. We spent as much time as possible outdoors this term – tree climbing on the rec, visiting the park, making rafts and racing them down the river (nobody went home dry that night), a game of rounders, and sports day. The fruit kebabs the Beavers made are definitely worth a mention – Never have we seen so much fruit get eaten so quickly.



## Cubs Report

Cubs have had another great year with lots of adventures and fun.

We've had team building challenges, disability awareness (ask your Cub to ask for their drink and biscuit in sign language!) and lots and lots of crafts – including super messy tie dye night.



Over the summer we did plenty of activities with hikes and some awesome pioneering efforts. We also really enjoyed some natural art and ad hoc shelter building as well as tracking and trailing.



As always fire lighting and cooking tasty treats also featured highly on the programme!



Last term we learned all about healthy eating to balance out our fire cooked treats and practiced our skills for the forthcoming District Lego Masters event.



## Scouts Report



We had another fab year at Scouts with loads of activities (some new, some revisited) and skill developing.

The Autumn '24 term had us learning to cook meals (on the hob for a change, and not the firepits); making rockets from used pop bottles – and my goodness how they flew; a sustainability project making wind turbines from old bicycle wheels; learning to use different map reading techniques; a skills night (sewing, ironing, puncture repair, etc.); and plenty of hiking practice for Twilight. Twilight, our annual memorial manhunt competition was very wet, but a huge amount of fun for both the runners and the catchers, and the obligatory pie and peas to finish the day off makes it all worthwhile. Also, in this term we managed to fit the annual JOTA/JOTI event in where we spent the day at the Scout Hut learning about electronics and communications and putting the newly acquired skills to good use by communicating with other Scout Groups around the world; and spent a weekend up at Bibby's Farm for our Group Camp.

Our Spring '25 term kicked off with night hikes in readiness for the Moonlight event in early February. After that we had a couple of silly nights involving food games (a donut dangling challenge and pancake races), and then we turned our gaze towards the stars when our very own Mr T brought his telescope in for us to have a look at. We spent a couple of weeks on astronomy, before designing and creating bee hotels. There's something quite scary about a room full of Scouts with hammers, nails and saws! As a result of the leaders nerves needing a rest, when we built our bridge, we made a Da Vinci Bridge so no tools needed. We finished the spring term off with a joint night of wide games down at Wrennalls woods.

Summer '25 term started with a bushcraft skills night of back woods and basic knife skills, which we developed a couple of weeks later with a night of firelighting, and further knife skills. We spent a lot of our time outdoors learning to use orienteering apps, building shelters and wide games in different parts of our local environment. During this term most of us gained our First Aid Stage 4 badge and some of us took to the water in kayaks and on paddleboards up at Spade Mill Reservoir. We also managed to fit another Group Camp in. The year, as always ended with a water fight!



## Quartermasters Report



2025 can be summarised as a 'doing the basics': We've kept the hut tidy and critical touch points aligned to insurance policy and safety requirements. We've bought essential items when required and performed repairs to some higher usage tents. But there is much to do on our high value assets.

### Hut Maintenance:

The key safety activities of water temp monitoring (monthly) and insurance flood protection requirements of gutter clearing (at least twice annually) have been performed - thanks to our Chair Mike T.

We suffer from drainage blockages and have been close a couple of time to being flooded with the potential for limiting access to the hut to recover the situations. Close attention by Ali and Paul resolved this just in time. The drains are a key planned maintenance activity for 2026.

New doors are now looking possible, and we look forward to these key improvements being installed.

A maintenance day was held in March and our thanks again to the few that turned out - even for short periods of an hour or two proves highly beneficial. It will be repeated for 2026 – so please offer your help in advance so we can plan jobs / tools more effectively. Please note over 18s only for safety reasons.

### Equipment:

Purchases have been relatively low both in volume and value. with just a couple of tents and some repair kits ordered so that we can repair the tents when they are damaged and sustain our inventory. Note our insurance figure estimates the kit held by ESG at a value of £25k.

2026 will be a focus at aligning our kit to the programme activities to ensure we are actively protecting those items that we need to; we will be looking at marquees / canoes and safety vests / climbing equipment in particular.

We're very fortunate to have this asset within the village.

## Finance Update

Below are the accounts of Eccleston Scout Group as of August 2025:

### Eccleston Scout Group Accounts 2025

<b>Income</b>	<b>2024-2025</b>	<b>2023-2024</b>
Bank Interest	114.82	45.53
Donation	210.14	0.14
Events	15,759.00	7,350.64
Events - Beavers	540.00	910.80
Events - Cubs	0.00	495.00
Events - Scouts	871.00	1,812.05
From old account	0.00	1,748.67
Fundraising	0.00	944.00
Gift Aid	3,490.02	5,552.29
Grants	0.00	3,500.00
Refunds	0.00	133.99
Rent	3,157.00	1,933.00
Subs - Beavers	4,712.00	3,792.00
Subs - Cubs	4,354.00	4,270.24
Subs - Scouts	7,096.00	6,031.45
Subs - Squirrels	2,978.00	1,199.04
Uniform	669.50	845.00

<b>Expense</b>	<b>2024-2025</b>	<b>2023-2024</b>
Activity Equipment	4.00	453.04
Admin	94.81	110.00
Badges	509.85	645.05
Bank Fees	948.14	791.24
Camping Equipment	614.87	0.00
Census	7,626.00	5,494.50
Council Tax	0.00	276.48
Error	0.00	73.99
Events	16,801.12	11,633.38
Events - Beavers	681.95	206.00
Events - Cubs	0.00	632.17
Events - Scouts	625.46	1,280.94
Events - Squirrels	0.00	103.02
Hut maintenance	49.62	672.11
Insurance	1,583.91	866.20
Meetings - Beavers	351.65	419.00
Meetings - Cubs	61.26	65.11
Meetings - Scouts	272.47	622.19
Meetings - Squirrels	271.27	202.11
Training	350.00	306.80
Uniform	2,365.77	1,357.38
Utilities	2,728.51	3,995.09
Venue Maintenance	2,436.68	1,518.00

**Eccleston Scout Group Accounts 2025 (Cont'd)**

<b>Account balances</b>	<b>2024-2025</b>	<b>2023-2024</b>
Expense Account	401.75	466.80
Eccleston Scout Group	2,633.85	4,048.64
Eccleston Scout Reserve	12,219.23	6,447.84
Eccleston Scout HQ Fund	1,281.79	1,763.44
ESG reserve	1,764.24	0.00

<b>Summary</b>	<b>2024-2025</b>	<b>2023-2024</b>
Account balance brought forward	12,726.72	3,886.68
Total income	43,951.48	40,563.84
Total expenditure	38,377.34	31,723.80
Net income	5,574.14	8,840.04
Account balance carried forward	18,300.86	12,726.72

***\*2026 is our International Trip to Switzerland so we are holding a larger balance than normal within the reserve account for this***

# Scrutineer's report to the trustees

## Scrutineer's Report to the Trustees of Eccleston Scout Group

I report on the accounts of the Group/District for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025

### Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Scrutineer

As the Group's/District'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 2011 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/District's constitution, I have scrutinised the records and the accounts set out.

### Scrutineer's Statement

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

Name: RACHEL RAMSAY *Ramsay*  
Address: HIGH BARN, WOOD LANE  
HESKIN  
CHORLEY  
PRESTON  
Date: 22.1.26

## Trustee Declaration

This report represents a true and fair record of Eccleston Scout Group activities and financial performance during the year August 2024 to August 2025.

Name

Date



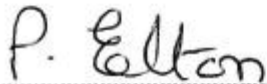
27/11/26

Mike Taylor – Chair and Trustee



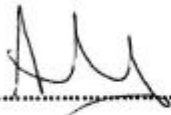
27/01/26

Jane Taylor – Secretary and Trustee



27.1.26

Pauline Elton - Treasurer and Trustee



27/1/2026

Alison Kirby – Group Lead Volunteer and Trustee



27/1/2026

Paul Kirby – Scout Leader and Trustee

**ECCLESTON SCOUT GROUP**

England & Wales - Charity number 1181375

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# Accounts

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# 365 DAYS OF ADVENTURE. HERE'S WHAT HAPPENED...

**Eccleston Scout Group**

**Annual Report 2024**



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## Report from the Chair

Welcome to the annual report for Eccleston Scout Group's 20<sup>th</sup> year. As we look back on 2023/24 we have again had a great year with Family Camp, Group Camp, Operation Twilight, the Group trip to Manley Mere, and a hugely successful cross country bike ride (but more of that later).

Our maintenance programmes continue to deliver the planned improvements to the Scout Hut to enable the health and safety of all our young people, leaders, and others who hire out the Scout Hut for much needed revenue. We really are very fortunate as a Group to have such a great asset as the building and the outdoor area at the back, but it does come with a cost of time, effort, and of course money. Once again, the appeal goes out to all the Scout community (and yes parents – that means you) to get involved when we publicise events and support all of us in this endless range of activities.

In addition, we also completed our year as lead Scout Group for Chorley District, which meant representing District as various parades and events throughout the year – including St Georges Day (where we led the parade), the Mayor's parade, Remembrance Day (as well as attending our own in Eccleston), and the Christingle - all which were well attended by the various Sections.

Once again, the Trustee Board puts on record the whole Group's thanks and appreciation of our operational leadership team - led by Alison - but again the success of the Group depends on having the leaders who give so much of their spare time to lead all the Sections. I encourage all of you to get involved where you can – we need the support of everyone in the community if we are to carry on growing – it really is very rewarding – honest.

As ever, the Trustee Board have worked hard to support Alison and the leaders. We meet quarterly to make sure that Group governance, and issues which support the various Sections of ESG, are kept on track and pushed forward to completion. I would like to formally put on record my thanks to the Trustees and other nominated members who continue to support me, and in turn support Alison, the leaders, and the whole of ESG. The 2023/24 Trustee Board and Group leadership team were:

Trustee Board	Leaders	Young Leaders
Mike Taylor - Chair	Lyndsey Pennington - Squirrels	Matt Dewhurst - Beavers
Jane Taylor - Secretary	Hannah Hunter - Squirrels	Matt Slater - Cubs
Pauline Elton - Treasurer	Janet Lawson-Marsden - Squirrels	Molly Pennington - Squirrels
Alison Kirby - GSL	Alison Kirby - Beavers	Emily Savage - Squirrels
Paul Kirby - Scout Leader	Sarah Clifford - Beavers and Scouts	Matthew Cleasby - Beavers
Phil Metge - Quartermaster	Jane Taylor - Beavers	
Andy Caunce – Explorer Leader	Chris Cote - Beavers	
	Alison Riley - Cubs	
	Steve Mellor - Cubs	
	Natalie Bidder - Cubs	
	Ryan Ashton - Cubs	
	Stuart Reeves - Cubs	
	Oscar Williams - Cubs	
	Paul Kirby - Scouts	
	Dave Cousins - Scouts	
	Nicola Williams - Scouts	
	Russ Clifford - Scouts	

Happy Scouting - Mr T.

## Group Scout Leader Report

I just don't know how we have got round to the AGM again!!

This last year has been as busy and rewarding as ever – seeing all Sections achieving and challenging themselves. Definitely pushing out of their comfort zones and learning – and that is just the leaders!!!

I always have to take the time early on to say a massive thank you to the leadership team for making all of this possible.

Each Section continues to deliver full and varied programmes of events, camps and activities and the AGM gives me an opportunity to give thanks and appreciation for how much time and energy the volunteers put into the Group. Several leaders have had personal challenges to battle this year, and I feel I have to say an extra special thanks to them not only persevering through their own challenges but bringing the same level of energy to the Group. You are all phenomenal!!

Behind the scenes as you can imagine there is also a lot of work to be done and the Trustee Board continue to support me with the regulatory, technical, HQ maintenance and much more. Their hard work ensures the smooth running of the Group.

This year's highlights have to be again all the amazing trips and camps - Group Camp, Family Camp, Group Trip to Manley Mere, Panto, Twilight and of course Coast to Coast which you will read about later in the report.

I don't often look back. As soon as we've finished one thing it seems that we are straight on to organising the next so writing this and seeing each Sections report gives me the opportunity to remember how much fun the kids have and how much they have learnt.

I am reminded within so many areas of life the benefits of Scouting for young people and how their membership to Scouts really does put them in front of the game when it comes to applying for further education, jobs, and other opportunities. Seeing them progress and receiving requests for references from some amazing places - I feel proud of every one of them.

Each Section is working hard to develop life skills within the Young People to prepare them to move to the next Section, the next adventure and ultimately towards their Chief Scout Awards. This year we've seen an amazing number of top awards – congratulations.

<b>Squirrels Acorn Awards</b>	<b>Beavers Bronze Awards</b>	<b>Cubs Silver Awards</b>	<b>Scouts Gold Awards</b>
Cassie Fairhurst	Cole Clarke	Matthew Kirby	Molly Pennington
Harry Bunce	Jessica Baron	Nathaniel Lylyk	Maisy Clint
Reuben Atherton	Eva Argile	Freddie Wilson	Yasmin Elliott
Beatrix Mason	Zach Latham	Alex Riley	George Aspinall
Luke Astley	Fenlon Klayh	Nye Thorpe	Matthew Johnson
Thomas Humphreys	Austin Reeves	Luke Tolson	Emily Savage
William Millington	Daniel Hogarth	Daniel Traynor	Judy Winnard
Eli Cuming	Robert Gray	Thomas Tuson	Matthew Cleasby
		William Pennington	Tom Hodgkinson
			Lucy Woodhead
			Mia Argile

As always, we will also hold our breath as to who will be awarded; Squirrel, Beaver, Cub and Scout of the Year. I don't want to spoil the surprise by naming them here, but an amazing achievement for those who receive these awards.

I do hope you will continue to help and support us through into 2025. I'm looking forward to it already!

Yours in Scouting

Alison

# Squirrels

## Eccleston Squirrels

What a busy time we've had at Squirrels, moving into our second year. It's been full on with lots of activities, trips and badges earned.

We have represented Eccleston at Remembrance parade, Christingle service, St George's Parade, Walking Day and always looked smart and keen to carry our flag.

The Squirrels had a trip to a soft play centre this year and burnt lots of energy whilst having fun earning their Get Active badge. We visited a local farm in spring and got to meet some newborn piglets and lambs and some of our Squirrels asked the farmer lots of questions! We of course had a splash at the steppies on the way home.

Squirrels took part in the Group trip to Manley Mere, which was a great hit, everyone got stuck in to all the muddy activities and the leaders were very grateful for our amazing young leaders taking control when it came to the mud river.

We have been out and about in the summer term, when weather permitted, we've had a campfire & s'mores, had a great litter pick across the field finding everything from a box of cereal with a spoon to random clothes and had chance to spend some time on the brand-new equipment at the park.

Our Squirrels have taken on lots of new exciting challenges this year with plenty of energy, smiles and their can-do attitude, we have completed lots of badges, including Exciting Experiments, Get Active, All Around Us and the new Space badge to name but a few. We have had 8 of our Squirrels complete their Chief Acorn Award before moving on to Beavers, which is a brilliant achievement at 6 years old!



## Beavers Report

### Winter Term 2023

Many of our Beavers attended our Group Camp in September and had a great time doing loads of activities. We've made instruments, sang songs and tasted food from Korea, made water filters, did archery and had a sleepover. During this term we celebrated Halloween and Christingle, as well doing lots of crafts and went to a pantomime.



### Spring Term 2024

Some of our Beavers went on the District sleepover at Rascals in Preston. During this term we also did first aid, and had a fire drill, planted potatoes and peppers, and made sandwiches for our parents. We learnt about patron saints, putting up tents and went on a hike to the stepping stones. We played team games and ate s'mores.

### Summer Term 2024

Family camp saw a few Beavers and their families experiencing a weekend at Waddecar Scout Camp – it was a lovely weekend. As the weather got better, we spent time outdoors wherever we could. We went pond dipping, restocked our bug hotel, harvested our potatoes and made camp blankets. We also made sand pictures and rocky road, cooked sausages in the woods and learnt how to tie knots. Our Group Trip to Manley Mere was a great success and to finish off our busy year, we had a water fight.

Phew.



## Cubs Report

Cubs have had another great year, notably with a number of Cubs getting their Cub Scout Silver awards, congratulations to: Matthew, Nathaniel, Freddy, Alex, Nye, Luke, Daniel, Thomas and William. In order to gain this award Cubs must participate in a personal challenge. This prompted our first challenge hike for the older Cubs, they planned a route, set off from Bibby's farm and navigated their way back to the Scout Hut. A great achievement.



Another first in recent times was that we took a number of Cubs to Wingdings in the summer. They had the best time at this camp – we were the smallest group on site with only ten Cubs but we were soon known to be the noisiest and craziest group. A good time was had by all!



We have also worked towards our cyclist badge, but somehow despite our skills they still said we were too young to go Coast to Coast – maybe next time!



Last term we worked on our personal safety badges and had a great time with our local police officers bringing cars, riot vans and dogs to our meetings and a trip out to the fire station – thanks Ryan!



## Scouts Report



We started the Scout year in September by getting outdoors as often as possible before the weather turned. Lots of wide games on the park, shelter building and night hikes in preparation for Twilight. The annual Group Camp was in September, and as usual this was a fab weekend. A huge variety of activities from archery and splatball, to whittling and tin-can pancakes, and the campfire singing could be heard echoing off the surrounding hills!! In October the Scouts took part in JOTA/JOTI where they could communicate with Scouts from all over the world, whilst on camp at Scarisbrick Guide Centre.

Twilight, our annual memorial manhunt competition was held in November, with teams joining us from many other local Scout Groups. Despite many practice hikes, there was plenty of challenges as the ground was so wet and boggy - great fun though. The term was finished off with our Scout Christmas meal and party. Yum!

In January, we sent two teams of Scouts out on a solo expedition – and they smashed it! They had to plan a route, hike and camp – all without the assistance of leaders. That was followed in February by Operation Moonlight (organised by Ormskirk Scout Group) – another manhunt, but over a much larger area.

We spent some time during the Spring term making planters for the Beavers to use in their Gardeners badge. The Scouts did a great job, even if they looked a little scary wielding hammers and saws! We finished off the term by getting creative – the Scouts worked on their digital media by building websites, and then produced a sketch show using all their own material. We definitely have some budding comedians within the Group.

During the summer term we have learned some pioneering skills and have put them to good use making stretchers, catapults, towers, bridges and even a drawbridge over the river! The knot tying was that impressive, even the leaders were prepared to walk over a bridge the Scouts built. The Scouts have also learned knife, and fire lighting skills. If they're ever lost in the woods – we've no doubt they could survive (as long as they had marshmallows and chocolate biscuits to make s'mores of course).

The Scouts seemed to spend a lot of time getting wet this term. From raft-building at Family Camp to inflatables over a lake at Manley Mere Aqua Park. In between those two events, we had kayaking lessons at Spade Mill Reservoir and a fun evening on the water at Rock & River. We ended the year with a water fight down by the river and finished off with chocolate bananas cooked on the fire.



## Explorers Report

It has been a real year of change for Yarrow Vikings, with the imminent departure of our older Explorers who are turning 18 soon – making all of us feel very old, the arrival of Carol as a new leader, and the influx of new Explorers moving up from Scouts. This makes for a very different Section from 12 months ago, going from 8 or 10 up to 20 young people!

Members of Yarrow Vikings went on several international trips including Haarlem Jambourette, Red Rose, and Roverway in Norway. We attended West Lancs County Explorer Camp as well as Mersey Moot with a handful of our own camps thrown in for good measure.

All of these experiences have given our young people the opportunity to meet Scouts from all over the world as well as even more locally. This is a key part of Scouting and I'm sure the memory of these experiences will last a lifetime. This year we are looking forward to getting to know all of our newest members better, getting out on camp as much as we can, and generally pushing for more awards, more adventure and more fun!



## Coast to Coast '24



After several months of training, on August Bank Holiday weekend, 24 Scouts, Explorers and Leaders set off to Scarborough with a coach load of cycles. Over the next three days, with 20 of us cycling (the rest catering and supporting), we made our way back across the country to finish at Lytham. Staying in Scout Huts along the way, and easing tired muscles with evening yoga sessions, the team worked together to make sure everyone was able to make the ride to the end. Our youngest two cyclists were just 11 years old (we won't mention Mr T's age at the other end of the very wide age range!) and did just amazingly. All riders and crew were treated to hot dinners, nightly hot chocolate treats and cooked breakfasts, as well as packed lunches and snacks along the way. With plenty of head wind on Saturday, and a fair amount of rain on Sunday, reaching Lytham on the Monday afternoon to cheers from parents, friends and bystanders was a perfect ending to a very long, hard, but rewarding journey, that raised £1,700 for The Calvert Lakes Trust by all your generous donations.



## Quartermasters Report



The hut has successfully supported the expanding Group activities, but as with all things continues to need areas of attention.

It has fully supported the Section programmes and a number of external hire booking events, and it's use as a base for the playground development team was a perfect example of village facilities being used in collaboration. The maintenance day provided some limited opportunity to maintain the excellent facilities we have, but there is a growing list of improvements and equipment maintenance we need to get on top of. The drains continue to cause problems, and this will be a major activity if not before, then at the annual 'Maintenance Day' weekend in March. Please look out for the date and we'd appreciate a larger number of parents finding an hour or two over the weekend to support the activities we are carrying out. Everything from cleaning to gardening to minor DIY to 'less minor' DIY! Tools and kit, tea, instruction, tea & sandwiches & more tea provided – perhaps a BBQ for those who want to carry on in the evening too.

Kit refurbishment is important to us and with the clear focus on safety, this is our priority in sequencing the work of maintenance, repair and replacement. As Trustees, we have a focus on safety and believe we have the right handle on all safety perspectives, but we openly welcome any observations or clarifications where you may feel this is unclear or perhaps not quite adequate.

If I don't see you before, I hope to see you at Maintenance Day!

## Finance Update

Eccleston Scout Group Accounts as of August 2024:

<b>Eccleston Scout Group Accounts 2023 - 2024</b>
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Income	
Bank Interest	£45.67
Events	£10,568.49
Funds Introduced	£1,748.67
Fundraising	£944.00
Gift Aid	£5,552.29
Grants	£3,500.00
Refunds	£133.99
Rent	£1,933.00
Subs	£15,292.73
Uniform	£845.00

Expenditure	
Census	£5,494.50
Equipment	£453.04
Admin	£183.99
Badges	£645.05
Events	£13,855.51
HQ Maintenance	£2,190.11
Insurance	£866.20
Section Meetings	£1,308.41
Leader Training	£306.80
Uniform	£1,357.38
Utilities	£4,271.57
Bank fees	£791.24

Account balances At 31st August 2024	
Expense Account	£466.80
Eccleston Scout Group	£4,048.64
Eccleston Scout Reserve	£6,447.84
Eccleston Scout HQ Fund	£1,763.44

Summary	
Account balance brought forward	£3,886.68
Total income	£40,563.84
Total expenditure	£31,723.80
Net income	£8,840.04
Account balance carried forward	£12,726.72

# Scrutineer's report to the trustees

## Scrutineer's Report to the Trustees of Eccleston Scout Group

I report on the accounts of the Group for the year 1<sup>st</sup> Sept 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024

### Respective responsibilities 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 2011 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.

### Scrutineer's Statement

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

Name: ... Emma Hogarth .....

Address: ... 295 The Green .....

... Eccleston .....

... PR7 5TJ .....

.....

Date: ... 9/10/24 .....

## Trustee Declaration

This report represents a true and fair record of Eccleston Scout Group activities and financial performance during the year August 2023 to August 2024.

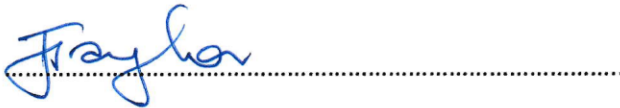
Name

Date



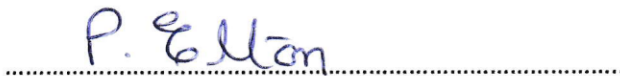
14/10/24

Mike Taylor – Chair and Trustee




14/10/2024

Jane Taylor – Secretary and Trustee



14.10.24

Pauline Elton – Treasurer and Trustee



14/10/2024

Alison Kirby – Group Scout Leader and Trustee



14/10/2024

Paul Kirby – Scout Leader and Trustee

**ECCLESTON SCOUT GROUP**

England & Wales - Charity number 1181375

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# Accounts

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# 365 DAYS OF ADVENTURE. HERE'S WHAT HAPPENED...

**Eccleston Scout Group**

**Annual Report 2023**



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## Report from the Chair

Welcome to the annual report for Eccleston Scout Group's 19<sup>th</sup> year. As we look back on 2022/23 we have again had a great year with family camp, group camp, operation twilight, and the group trip to Manley Mere. A successful maintenance programme continues to deliver the planned improvements to the Scout Hut. In addition, we also completed our community support activities such as remembrance parade, the toy service, St Georges day parade, and the village walking day. Once again, this was obviously topped off with a successful the trip to Kandersteg in February, which saw the Scouts and Explorers, skiing, snowboarding, hiking and sledding, undertaking arctic survival training, curling, and generally having a great time. We have already started the planning for the 2026 trip, which has the potential of being our largest ever, as we also now have two Scout troops.

We also had two massive achievements this year as both Nina Allen and Jack Taylor achieved their Queens Scout awards - one of the last before the change to the Kings Scouts Award, and the first for ESG. Nina and Jack were the only two representatives from Chorley District to achieve this pinnacle award, and massive congratulations go to both of them, and also to Alison and the ESG leaders who supported Nina and Jack throughout their development as Scouts and their achievements.

Once again, the Trustee Board puts on record the whole group's thanks and appreciation of our operational leadership team - led by Alison - but again the success of the group depends on having the leaders who give so much of their spare time to lead all the sections. So again, I encourage all of you to get involved where you can – we need the support of everyone in the community if we are to carry on growing. As for the Group, we are going through the Scout Association transformation process and are now known as a Trustee Board. This is a big step for us and the Scout Association and brings ESG closer to the alignment with the requirements of being a registered charity.

As ever, the Trustee Board have worked hard to support Alison and the leaders. We meet quarterly to make sure that group governance, and issues which support the various sections of ESG, are kept on track and pushed forward to completion. I would like to formally put on record my thanks to the Trustees and other nominated members who continue to support me, and in turn support Alison, the leaders, and the whole scout group. The 2022/23 Trustee Board and Group leadership team were:

Trustee Board	Leaders	Young Leaders
Mike Taylor - Chair	Lyndsey Pennington - Squirrels	Matt Dewhurst - Beavers
Jane Taylor - Secretary	Hannah Hunter - Squirrels	Matt Slater - Cubs
Pauline Elton - Treasurer	Janet Lawson-Marsden - Squirrels	Molly Pennington - Squirrels
Alison Kirby - GSL	Alison Kirby - Beavers	Emily Savage - Squirrels
Paul Kirby - Scout Leader	Sarah Cleasby - Beavers and Scouts	Matthew Cleasby - Beavers
Phil Metge - Quartermaster	Jane Taylor - Beavers	
	Chris Cote - Beavers	
	Alison Riley - Cubs	
	Steve Mellor - Cubs	
	Natalie Bidder - Cubs	
	Ryan Ashton - Cubs	
	Stuart Reeves - Cubs	
	Oscar Williams - Cubs	
	Paul Kirby - Scouts	
	Dave Cousins - Scouts	
	Nicola Williams - Scouts	
	Russ Clifford - Scouts	

Happy Scouting - Mr T.

## Group Scout Leader Report

Well that was another spectacular year in Scouting!! Massive thank you to the leadership team for making it all possible.

We currently have the largest number of young people we have ever had enjoying and benefiting from Scouting, which is absolutely amazing. We have started a 2<sup>nd</sup> Scout Troop this year and continue to grow.

As always a little shout out for anyone that could help us out on meeting nights (never miss an opportunity to ask)

The highlight has to be our KISC 23 Winter Trip to Switzerland – Skiing, Chocolate factory, Winter Survival, Curling to name a few - but it this does blur in with all the other amazing trips and camps - Group Camp, Family Camp, Group Trip to Manley Mere, Panto, Twilight and many more.

This year has seen the first full year of Squirrels – they have been an amazing set of leaders and kids – with plenty of adventures had and still to come!!!

Each section has delivered a full and varied programme of events, camps and activities and the AGM gives me an opportunity to give thanks and appreciation for how much time and effort the volunteers put into the Group with the leaders running the meeting nights but also the Exec Committee.

The Exec are facing a transition to a new more formal way of working. This brings us more in line with the Charity Commission and will now be called Trustee Board. All these roles are voluntary and carry a responsibility for the Group and enables the smooth running of the activities. I have to offer another HUGE thank you – without them we wouldn't have the thriving group that we do.

Special recognition from Scouting to our Group Chairman – Mike Taylor this year – He was awarded a Commendation for Good Service – and how very well deserved.

Also quite embarrassingly I was awarded Commendation for Exceptional Service at the St Georges Day Service in Chorley – it is nice to get the recognition as to how much time and effort goes into Scouting.

I am looking forward to hearing how much fun the kids have and how much they have learnt. I am reminded regularly of the benefits of Scouting for young people. Not only do they have fun and adventure, but these activities provide them with life skills that they take forward into their school, college and working lives. I feel proud of every one of them.

Each section is working hard to develop skills within the Young People to prepare them to move to the next section, the next adventure and ultimately towards their Chief Scout Awards. With the disruption of Covid a distant memory we have seen a growing number gaining top awards and our very first Acorn Award.

ACORN	BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD
Jacob McEvoy	Peter Traynor	Nathan Riley	
	Elliott Black	Matthew Kirby	
	Lucas Vinden		
	Archie Haddon		
	Oliver Higginson		

Watch this space next year – there are lots more nearly there!!!

We will also hold our breath as to who will be awarded; Squirrel, Beaver, Cub and Scout of the Year 2023. I don't want to spoil the surprise by naming them here, but an amazing achievement for those who receive these awards.

I do hope you will continue to help and support us through into 2024. I'm looking forward to it already!

Yours in Scouting

Alison

# Squirrels

## Eccleston Squirrels

We have completed a full year at Squirrels and what an action packed year its been! From pantos to pond dipping, parades to police visits we've done it all and collected many badges along the way.

Being the first Drey in Chorley we were a big attraction at St George's Day parade with our flag and we got a special mention from the District Commissioner! Squirrels also made their first appearance at Walking day with the Eccleston Scout Group looking super smart.

Squirrels first trip to Manley Mere was a big hit, what an adventure we all had and finishing off the day with most squirrels and leaders in the mud bath – best part of the day if you ask any squirrel (and leader).

We have been out and about in the summer term taking in our amazing village, local walks, litter pick and visiting Sainsbury's to find out where some of our food comes from.

We have just had our annual group scout camp at Bibby's Farm, we threw ourselves into all the activities with the Beavers, Cubs & Scouts from Archery, Whittling, Grass Sledging not letting our size hold us back.

Our Squirrels have taken on so many challenges this year with their determination and abundance of energy we have completed lots of badges, including Local Super Hero, Let it Grow, All About Adventure to name but a few. With one of our original squirrels completing their Chief Acorn Award!!



## Beavers Report

### Winter Term 2022

Many of our Beavers attended our Group Camp in September and had a great time doing loads of activities. We've visited Leyland fire station and exercised doing cross fit, and designed and made machines. During this term we celebrated Halloween, Diwali, and Thanksgiving, took part in the Remembrance Parade, as well as lots of crafts. We finished the term off by taking a trip to see Cinderella in pantomime in Blackpool. Oh yes we did!!



### Spring Term 2023

During this term we made music by making our own instruments. We had made tie dyed re-usable tote bags and we made our own pancakes and they tasted yum! We did science experiments, visited some new born lambs at a farm, and ate smores!

### Summer Term 2023

Family camp saw a few Beavers and their families experiencing a weekend at Waddecar Scout Camp – it was a lovely weekend. As the weather got better, we spent time outdoors wherever we could. We learned about first aid, grew cress, took part in Walking Day and celebrated the Kings coronation. We learnt the Green Cross Code and did a litter pick and climbed trees, which counted towards our World and Adventure badge. The Beavers did archery at Bibby's farm and learnt how to tie knots and made kites. Our Group Trip to Manley Mere was a great success and to finish off our busy year, we had a water fight.

Phew.



## Cubs Report



# cubs report

Our cubs have continued to work hard on their badges whilst having lots of fun. We have even had two cubs earn their cub scout silver award (congratulations Nathan and Matthew), with lots of cubs on track to gain this award in the next year.



Our adventures this year have seen some old favourites as well as some new activities (thanks for the Tae Kwon Do, Natalie). The cubs have been challenged with their lateral thinking and team building skills (resulting in some impressive human pyramids). We have learned many skills including making rope, tying knots and using them to build pioneering projects and everyone's favourite-the raft race. We have pulled out the old style patrol tents and learned to put them up but we thought better than to take them on camp-the modern ones are much easier. We also had four dedicated cubs hike 8.5 miles on the Chorley 4 peaks-well done to Anna, Payton, Mowgli and Alex.

The cubs have made their leaders so proud with their helpfulness and kindness. They are now expert tea makers and their enthusiasm for litter picking is astounding!

## Scouts Report

2022/23 has been an exciting and memorable year.

During our weekly meetings, we have done badge work, knots, local walks, pitching tents, pioneering, cooking, and of course played games.



In September we had group camp attended by all sections, this was a huge success and a most memorable weekend at Bibby's Farm Scout Camp, our Scouts took part in a variety of activities. In addition to this we have taken part in the 4 peaks challenge organised by Chorley Healey.

In November our group organised the now annual 'Twilight' a walking/manhunt competition across the local area. It is a tremendous event where we competed against other local groups. This event continues to grow, and we are looking forward to this year's event on the 25<sup>th</sup> November 2023, and we have been practicing our map reading and walking at pace. We also had Remembrance Parade and the Toy service.

December saw having ski and snowboard lessons and our Christmas party and celebrations.

In January we competed in 'Operation Moonlight', another walking / manhunt competition with teams from all over the North West. This is a really challenging event and saw our team's come 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> overall which was brilliant.

Our biggest event was our trip to Kandersteg, Switzerland in February. We had a great time, skiing, snowboarding, hiking and sledding, as well as visiting the chocolate factory where we made our own chocolate bar and the cheese factory. We tried curling, built igloos, and joined in the campfire singing with other scout groups from other countries.



In April we opened a new scout colony on a Friday night so we could reduce our waiting list.



We did bike maintenance and cycle rides around Mawdsley and Croston. The One Match Challenge – Scouts had to build and light a fire with only one match and keep it lit. We made and ate pizza, we learned climbing skills and attending walking day, which unfortunately was very wet.

In July we had a group trip to Manley Mere, Cheshire where fun was had by all swimming in the lake, completing the on-water inflatable assault course and then the trail on land.

The summer saw our annual family camp and beach party, which was wet and windy; we had a giant game of Manhunt with Explorers; played Frisby with Croston scouts; and we finished the year with a water fight.

Scouting, join the adventure and develop skills for life!

## Explorers Report

It's been another busy year for Yarrow Viking Explorers, with 3 Chief Scout platinum awards and Duke of Edinburgh Awards, with more to be signed off in the next few weeks! Members of Yarrow Vikings went on two international trips first to Kandersteg with Eccleston as well as Haarlem Jambourette in the Netherlands. We attended West Lancs County Explorer Camp as well as Mersey Moot with a handful of our own camps thrown in for good measure.

All of these experiences have given our young people the opportunity to meet Scouts from all over the world as well as more locally. This is a key part of Scouting and I'm sure the memory of these experiences will last a lifetime.

We are beginning to see Scouts filtering up from Eccleston to bolster our numbers, which is a relief as we will unfortunately have to say goodbye to some of our current members as they turn 18. With two Scout Troops feeding us these days we expect the next couple of years to get busier and busier!

We are all looking forward to an exciting year of scouting ahead with our new members to come and lots of adventures yet to come!



Mersey Moot - Spot the knackered Explorer Leader...



Chilly camp in Pendle



Cable Car to the Hike and Sledge in Kandersteg

## Quartermasters Report



The year can be summarised as a 'doing the basics'.

Kit purchases have been low with our insurance figure estimated at £25k.

We are looking to set longer term (10 year) budget forecasts in the next 3 months to better understand how we prepare for the larger value purchases of items that we have or need to replace over their longer period of life, including those items that have a life expiry. In particular we will be looking at marquees, canoes and climbing equipment.

Maintenance days have been held. The weekend we position in March requests parental help (no u18 for safety reasons) for a couple of hours over the weekend. In general the open call to parents attracts little support but thanks go to the 1-2 usual helpers and 1 'first timer' earlier in the year.

The next major issue is the replacement Scout Hut doors but were held up by the recent price hikes that means we need to raise additional funds to suitably replace them.

The change in POR has resulted in us more formally confirming the controls, risks and safety around our hut and equipment. The trustees are available to explain any details about our controls over safety of children whilst in our care.

## Finance Update

Eccleston Scout Group Accounts as of August 2023:

### Balance Sheet

Eccleston Scout Group  
As at 31 August 2023

31 AUG 2023

#### Current Assets

<b>Cash at bank and in hand</b>	
Eccleston Scout Events	1,027.31
Eccleston Scout Group	5,139.75
ECCLESTON SCOUT GRP	5,091.21
<b>Total Cash at bank and in hand</b>	<b>11,258.27</b>

**Total Current Assets** 11,258.27

**Net Current Assets (Liabilities)** 11,258.27

**Total Assets less Current Liabilities** 11,258.27

**Net Assets** 11,258.27

#### Capital and Reserves

Current Year Earnings	(15,940.48)
Retained Earnings	27,198.75
<b>Total Capital and Reserves</b>	<b>11,258.27</b>

### Profit and Loss

Eccleston Scout Group  
For the year ended 31 August 2023

2023

#### Turnover

Donations income	650.00
Events income	17,646.00
Interest Income	46.53
Other Revenue	8,986.52
Subscriptions income	(670.00)
<b>Total Turnover</b>	<b>26,659.05</b>

**Gross Profit** 26,659.05

#### Administrative Costs

Activities	40.00
Audit & Accountancy fees	72.00
Events/camps	36,763.03
Insurance	40.00
Miscellaneous	4,584.25
Refreshments	243.50
Subscriptions	670.00
Telephone & Internet	186.75
<b>Total Administrative Costs</b>	<b>42,599.53</b>

**Operating Profit** (15,940.48)

**Profit on Ordinary Activities Before Taxation** (15,940.48)

**Profit after Taxation** (15,940.48)

### Annual Review in Pictures

