

# NINTH DARTFORD SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 271270

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Other

**Registered** 1976-05-24

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

## Contact

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**Address** 64 The Brent  
Dartford  
DA1 1YW

**Phone** 01322279469

**Email** [philhamblin@yahoo.com](mailto:philhamblin@yahoo.com)

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

## Activities

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**Objects:** THE INSTRUCTION OF BOYS OF ALL CLASSES IN THE PRINCIPLES OF DISCIPLINE, LOYALTY AND GOOD CITIZENSHIP.

**Activities:** Scout Group, currently including Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers and Squirrels.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training
- **Who:** Children/young People, The General Public/mankind

## Geography

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- **Area of benefit:** DARTFORD
- Kent

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£28,053	£26,559	-	-
2024-03-31	£20,931	£19,765	-	-
2023-03-31	£25,866	£27,801	-	-
2022-03-31	£38,680	£39,860	-	-
2021-03-31	£27,663	£7,003	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Desmond Peter Harris		2013-12-01
Jack Ford		2019-09-21
Julie Southcott		2019-09-21
Justin Watson		2025-01-26
Leigh Hunter		2022-01-01
Liam Fensome		2025-01-30
Neil Christopher Gearing		2013-12-01
Pauline Lindsey Claire Daly		2013-12-01
Simon Sear		2023-01-01
Wilson Couchman		2015-04-01
shaun ford		2016-09-01

**NINTH DARTFORD SCOUT GROUP**

England & Wales - Charity number 271270

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# Accounts

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## **Trustees' Annual Report for the period**

**From 1 April 2024 Period start date To 31 March 2025 Period end date**

**Charity name: Ninth Dartford Scout Group**

**Charity registration number: 271270**

### **Objectives and Activities**

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<b>Ninth Dartford Scout Group is a trust established under Scouting rules (see detail on the background on this point in the Governance section later in this report) and its purpose is that which is common to all scouts. The Aim of The Scout Association is 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. The method of achieving the Aim of the Association is by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training, based on the Scout Promise and Law and guided by adult leadership.</b>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<b>As with other Scout Groups Ninth Dartford has the aim of promoting the development of young people by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive learning based on the scout promise and law. The hall is used for section nights and as a base. The former includes developing new skills such as cooking, sleep-overs and art although there are external visits such as ice skating and tobogganing. The latter means that we have somewhere to keep our many indoor and outdoor games and, of course, camping equipment. The support which the Council provided in 2021 (see our 2022 report to the charity Commission) has been used to 'open up' our outside area for troop night use. We now have a dedicated fenced off area for a firepit</b>

		<b>and a large area for games. Safety features - a dedicated cage for gas canisters and a dedicated shed for the mowing equipment- have also been completed.</b>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	<b>The trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit</b>

**Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	
Other		

**Achievements and Performance**

	SORP reference	

<p>Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.</p>	<p>Para 1.20</p>	<p><b>The year to March 2025 saw improvements to the hall and grounds, but the group also grew. The Squirrels Scout section mentioned in the 2022 report is not just full but has a large waiting list. Our wider support for the community has, since the 2022 report, including providing our hall for use by the NHS Vaccination service and one-off support to the local professional Pantomime for costume facilities.</b></p>
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**Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

<p>Achievements against objectives set</p>	<p>Para 1.41</p>	
<p>Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set</p>	<p>Para 1.41</p>	
<p>Investment performance against objectives</p>	<p>Para 1.41</p>	
<p>Other</p>		

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<b>This review takes the form of the annual accounts, which have been provided to the charity Commission and show that the charity is solvent and has sufficient reserves. But must be considered in accordance with other information in this section.</b>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	<b>The policy is to hold reserves of at least £3,000, sufficient to cover at least three months essential running costs.</b>
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	<b>The balance sheet shows £36,067. This is due, in part, to an increase in income from renting out the Scout hall and the fact that we have kept some Covid assistance which we were still using to keep the weekly subs at the same rate in 2025 and for 2026.</b>
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	<b>Not applicable</b>
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	<b>Not applicable</b>
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	<b>There are none.</b>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	<b>Weekly subs (and their inherent Gift Aid claim) along with parents contributions towards some activities and our aforementioned increase in hiring the hall out are the principle sources of income.</b>
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	<b>The Group's Trustee Board has identified the major risks to which they believe the Group is exposed, these have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate against them. The main areas of concern that have been identified are:</b>  <b>Damage to the building, property and equipment. The Group would request the use of buildings, property and equipment from neighbouring organisations such as the church, community centre and other Scout Groups. Similar reciprocal arrangements exist with these organisations. The</b>

		<p><b>Group has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss. Indeed it had the hall revalued during 2025 to ensure that the insurance was adequate.</b></p> <p><b>Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members. The Group through the capitation fees contributes to the Scout Associations national accident insurance policy. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities.</b></p> <p><b>Reduced income from fund raising. The Group is primarily reliant upon income from subscriptions, hall hire and fundraising. The group does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Committee could raise the value of subscriptions to increase the income to the group on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently.</b></p> <p><b>Reduction or loss of leaders. The group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the group. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular section or the group as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the Group.</b></p> <p><b>Reduction or loss of members. As at 31 March 2025 the group provided activities for all young people aged 4 to 18. It still does. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular section or the group as whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the Group.</b></p>
Other		

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	<b>The Groups governing documents are those of the Scout Association . They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turns gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and The Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.</b>
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	<b>The Group is a trust established under its rules which are common to all scouts</b>
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	<b>The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy Organisation and Rules of the Scout Association</b>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	<p><b>The Group is managed by the Group Trustee Board, the members of which are the 'Charity Trustees' of the Scout Group which is an educational charity. As charity trustees they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.</b></p> <p><b>The Committee consists of 3 independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary together with the Group Scout Leaders, individual section leaders and parent's representation and meets every 2 to 3 months.</b></p> <p><b>This Group Trustee Board exists to support the Group Scout Leader in meeting the responsibilities of the appointments and is responsible for:</b></p> <p><b>The maintenance of Group property; The raising of funds and the administration of Group finance; The insurance of persons, property and equipment; Group public occasions; Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support; Appointing any sub committees that</b></p>
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		<b>may be required;</b> <b>Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support;</b> <b>Appointing any sub committees that may be required;</b> <b>Appointing Group Administrators and Advisors other than those who are elected.</b>
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	<b>Ninth Dartford Scout Group</b>
Other name the charity uses	<b>Informally it uses '9<sup>th</sup> Dartford Scout Group'</b>
Registered charity number	<b>271270</b>
Charity's principal address	<b>The Charity is a part of the Scouting Organisation.</b>

**Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity**

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	<b>Simon Sear</b>	<b>Chair</b>		
2	<b>Julie Southcott</b>	<b>Group Lead Volunteer</b>		
3	<b>Philip Hamblin</b>	<b>Group Treasurer</b>		
4	<b>Shaun Ford</b>	<b>Trustee</b>		
5	<b>Wilson Couchman</b>	<b>Trustee</b>		
6	<b>Neil Gearing</b>	<b>Trustee</b>		
7	<b>Desmond Harris</b>	<b>Trustee</b>		
8	<b>Pauline Daly</b>	<b>Trustee</b>		
9	<b>Liam Fensome</b>	<b>Trustee</b>		
10	<b>Jack Ford</b>	<b>Trustee</b>		
11	<b>Leigh Hunter</b>	<b>Trustee</b>		
12	<b>Justin Watson</b>	<b>Trustee</b>		
13	<b>Sarah Gull</b>	<b>Trustee</b>		
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

**Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved**

Director name	Not applicable	

**Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity**

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
	<b>Not applicable</b>	

## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	<b>None</b>
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

### Additional information (optional)

#### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
		<b>Not applicable</b>

#### Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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## Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

<b>Not applicable</b>
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## Other optional information

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## Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

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Full name(s)

Philip John Hamblin	Simon Sear
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Position (eg Secretary,  
Chair, etc)

Treasurer	Group Chair
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Date

30 January 2026
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**9th DARTFORD SCOUT GROUP**

**Accounts**

**Year Ending 31st March 2025**

**9th DARTFORD SCOUT GROUP**

**Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2025**

<b>Income</b>	£	£	<b>Expenditure</b>	£
<b>Group Subscriptions with national capitation payments</b>			<b>Group expenses</b>	
Squirrels	2,340		Section night costs; Squirrels	562
Beaver Section	3,200		Beavers	1,027
Cub Section	2,812		Cubs	424
Scout Section	1,676		Scouts	1,135
Explorers	653		Explorers	377
	<u>10,681</u>		Joint (bouncy castle)	205
Total subscriptions for group		5,693		<u>3,730</u>
Total payments for capitation		<u>4,988</u>	<b>Capitation</b>	
		<u>10,681</u>	Group	4,675
			Explorers	313
				<u>4,988</u>
<b>Fund Raising &amp; Donations</b>			<b>Other expenses</b>	
Hall rental		9,157	Camps (including Group camp)	1,891
Gift aid (for year ending 5 April 2023)		2,191	Clothing (new logo this year)	1,217
General donations		1,370	Cleaning	1,370
Bizarre		587	Hall safety checks and equipment	927
		<u>13,305</u>	Badges	747
			Bizarre and St Georges day Parade	740
			AGM, group Software, leader expenses	471
				<u>7,363</u>
			<b>Overheads</b>	
Camp contributions			Gas	1,868
			Insurance (hall)	1,260
<b>Other income</b>			Rent (land)	1,000
Section night contributions		1,174	Water rates	370
Family camp contributions		1520	Electricity	324
Camp contributions		724	Performing rights society	316
Clothing sales (excluding camp clothing)		649		<u>5,138</u>
		<u>4,067</u>	<b>Group improvements/repairs</b>	
			New concrete base	1,869
			Equipment	1,695
			Repairs	80
				<u>3,644</u>
			<b>Prepayments for camps</b>	
			Summer 2025 Kent International Jamboree	750
			CampBeaver camp April 2025	735
			Gilwell camp, November 2025	211
				<u>1696</u>
<b>GROSS INCOME</b>		<u>28,053</u>	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<u>26,559</u>

<b>Opening Balance 1st April 2024</b>	£	<b>Bank and cash reconciliation at 31 March 2025</b>	
Bank current accounts and money on Hypercard	33,641	Cash and cheques on hand;	£
Bank deposit account	89	Squirrels	39
Cash in hand	843	Beavers	48
	<u>34,573</u>	Cubs	285
		Scouts	0
Plus Income	28,053	Explorers	71
Total	<u>62,626</u>	Hyperjar card	910
			<u>1,353</u>
Less expenditure	26,559	Cash in current accounts	34,624
		Cash in deposit account	90
<b>Closing balance at 31 March 2025</b>	<u>36,067</u>	<b>Closing balance at 31 March 2025</b>	<u>36,067</u>

Signed .....Simon Sear

Simon Sear  
Group Chair

Dated 1/30/2026

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**Notes to Accounts & Treasurers Report****Records and accounts**

As with earlier years I would like to thank the Section Lead volunteers and hall-hire manager for their excellent records.

Last year I reported the efforts, mainly sorted by Shaun Ford, to reduce the Gas Bill from over £4,000. The reduction to under £2,000 was helped by all leaders but primarily from Shauns suggestions and a new contract.

The increase in the Performing Rights Society expenditure is due in part to the fact that some of the 2024 dues were paid during the 2025 year but also to the increase in hall rental income between 2023 and 2024. I expect that we will experience a similar increase next year.

**Donations**

National and local bodies have been generous this year, and we would like to thank them all, including; The Scout section enjoyed a November Gilwell camp which was funded by Scout Headquarters. PP Catering donated £145 from one of their raffles.

Jim Trott for his donation of £300 to be used for a gardening tools shed which Jim will be pleased to know that it was put into position in September 2025.

The generous donation of £800 from the Bird in Hand is to be used for the benefit of all who attend the Group Camp in July 2026.

**Scout Bank**

There were no movements in this year so the Scout Bank remained at £1,188 throughout.

**The Group**

Improvement expenses include Hi Viz Jackets, games - both indoor and outdoor as well as improvements on the premises including the concrete base in the grounds and almost £1,000 worth of tables.

**The Hall**

The hall continued to be used by non-scouting organisations, including a knitting & crochet club, a dance club and the NHS Immunisation team as well as being a polling station for elections. Due to egregious behaviour including abuse and fly tipping from a small minority of users we are limiting the categories of people to whom we allow access to the hall.

**Statement of assets and liabilities**

	£	
Opening funds	34,573	
Income	28,053	
Expenses	26,559	
Closing funds	36,067	
Increase in funds		
Assets	£	
New equipment costs	1,695	
Hall improvement costs	1,869	
Taken to P+L account	3,564	
Net improvement costs	0	
Deposit account	90	
Current accounts	34,624	
Cash and cheques in hand	1,353	
	36,067	

Signed *P.Hamblin* Philip Hamblin  
Treasurer

Date 30-Jan-26

**Unqualified report for a non-company charity preparing receipts and payments accounts with a gross income of £250,000 or less in the relevant financial year**

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**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of 9<sup>th</sup> Dartford Scout Council**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the 9<sup>th</sup> Dartford Scout Group for the year ended 31 March 2025.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the 9<sup>th</sup> Dartford 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 9<sup>th</sup> Dartford Scout 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.

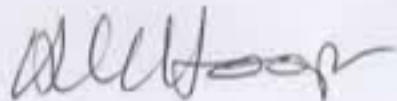
**Independent examiner's statement**

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 9<sup>th</sup> Dartford Scout Group as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

Signed:



Name: Helen Hooper

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): FCCA

Address: 93 The Street, Mereworth, Maidstone, Kent, ME18 5LU

Date:

24/1/26

**NINTH DARTFORD SCOUT GROUP**

England & Wales - Charity number 271270

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# Accounts

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# Trustees' Annual Report

For the period

From (start date)

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3 1 0 3 2 3

## Section A

## Reference and administration details

Charity name

**9th Dartford Scout Group**

Other names the charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

2 7 1 2 7 0

HQ registration number

1 0 0 1 1 9 8 7

Charity's principal address

The Scout Hall

Heath Lane (Lower)

Dartford

Postcode

D A 1 2 D S

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

*(These will be published in the annual report of the charity and the Charity Register if reporting for a Registered Charity with a charity regulator)*

	Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
1	Gavin Wills	Chair	
2	Phil Hamblin	Treasurer	
3	Neil Gearing	Trustee	
4	Sarah Gull	Trustee	
5	Pauline Daly	Trustee	
6	Julie Southcott	Trustee	
7	Wilson Couchman	Trustee	
8	Jack Ford	Trustee	
9	Shaun Ford	Trustee	
10	Des Harris	Trustee	
11	Simon Sear	Trustee	
12	Leigh Hunter	Trustee	
13			
14			
15			

Names and addresses of advisers (optional information but encouraged as best practice)

*(These will be published in the annual report of the charity)*

Type of advisor	Name	Address

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**Section B Structure, governance and management**

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document

(e.g. trust deed, constitution)

The Group's governing documents are those of the The Scout Association. They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and The Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.

How the charity is constituted

(e.g. trust, association, company)

The Group is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Scouts.

Trustee selection methods

(e.g. appointed by, elected by)

The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.

Additional governance issues (optional information but encouraged as best practice)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:

The Group is managed by the Group Executive Committee, the members of which are the 'Charity Trustees' of the Scout Group which is an educational charity. As charity trustees they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.

Policies and procedures adopted for:

a) the induction and training of trustees; b) trustee' consideration of major risks and the systems and procedures to manage them

The Committee consists of 2 independent representatives, Chair and Treasurer together with the Group Scout Leader, individual section leaders (if opted to take on the responsibility) and parent's representation and meets every 3-4 months.

Members of the Executive Committee complete 'Essential Information for Executive Committee' training within the first 5 months of joining the committee.

This Group Executive Committee exists to support the Group Scout Leader in meeting the responsibilities of the appointments and is responsible for:

- The maintenance of Group property;
- The raising of funds and the administration of Group finance;
- The insurance of persons property and equipment;

The insurance of persons, property and equipment;  
Group public occasions;  
Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support;  
Appointing any sub committees that may be required;  
Appointing Group Administrators and Advisors other than those who are elected.

**Risk and Internal Control - The Group Executive Committee** has identified the major risks to which they believe the Group is exposed, these have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate against them. The main areas of concern that have been identified are:

Damage to the building, property and equipment. The Group would request the use of buildings, property and equipment from neighbouring organisations such as the church, community centre and other Scout Groups. Similar reciprocal arrangements exist with these organisations. The Group has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss.

Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members. The Group through the capitation fees contributes to the Scout Associations national accident insurance policy. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities.

Reduced income from fund raising. The Group is primarily reliant upon income from subscriptions and fundraising. The group does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Committee could raise the value of subscriptions to increase the income to the group on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently.

Reduction or loss of leaders. The group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the group. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular section or the group as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the Group.

Reduction or loss of members. The Group provides activities for all young people aged 6 to 18. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular section or the group as whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the Group.

In addition, the group has in place systems of internal controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss these include 2 signatories

material mismanagement or loss, these include 2 signatories for all payments and a comprehensive insurance policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

**Section C Objectives and activities**

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

**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.

**The Values of Scouting**  
As Scouts we are guided by these values:  
**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 co-operate with others and make friends.

**The Scout Method**  
Scouting takes place when young people, in partnership with adults, work together based on the values of Scouting and:  
- enjoy what they are doing and have fun  
- take part in activities indoors and outdoors  
- learn by doing  
- share in spiritual reflection  
- take responsibility and make choices  
- undertake new and challenging activities  
- make and live by their Promise.

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects

See section reports.

Additional details of the objectives and activities (optional information but encouraged as best practice)

Public benefit statement

The Group meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings.

**Section D Achievements and performance**

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

We have continued improving the hall and grounds this year, including the installation of new windows, new fencing and noticeboards. The grounds continued to be maintained by Andrey Nikulin (parent) - a big THANK YOU to Andrey. During the year our longest-running regular hall users, the "Dartford Club for the Disabled", finally closed its doors. We wish to thank for all

their support over the years, and for a donation to the Scout Group on the club's last day.

Our thanks also go to both Rig Lift and McAllister Brothers who created a new base for the container to sit on, once it had been relocated.

The sections continue to offer fun and enjoyable range of activities and events. Our brand new section - Squirrels - is thriving and will provide additional members to the older sections in years to come.

As always, a huge debt of gratitude is owed to our leaders, assistants, parent helpers and our Trustees.

**Section E Financial Review**

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

**Reserves Policy**

The Group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the group should income and fundraising activities fall short. The Group Executive Committee considers that the group should hold a sum equivalent to **six** months running costs, circa £3,000.

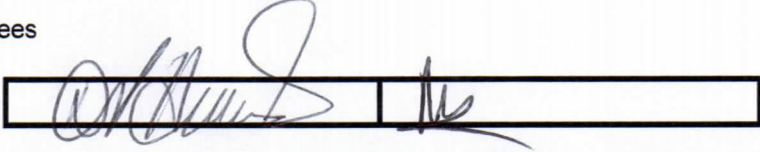
The Group held reserves of approximately £5K against this at year end. The Group does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer term investments. The Group has therefore adopted a risk averse strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks.

**Section F Declaration**

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)



Full name(s)

Des Harris Philip Hamblin

Position (eg Secretary, Chair)

Kent Scout - County Chairman Treasurer

Date

2 2 0 1 2 4

**9th DARTFORD SCOUT GROUP**

**Accounts**

**Year Ending 31st March 2023**

## 9th DARTFORD SCOUT GROUP

### Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2023

<u>Income</u>	£	<u>Expenditure</u>	£
<b>Subscriptions</b>		<b>Group expenses</b>	
Squirrels	2,044	Section night costs; Squirrels	451
Beaver Section	2,193	Beavers	1,093
Cub Section	2,986	Cubs	568
Scout Section	957	Scouts	779
Explorers	956	Explorers	238
	<u>9,136</u>		<u>3,129</u>
<b>Fund Raising &amp; Donations</b>		<b>Capitation</b>	
Hall donations	6,710	Group	3,691
Grants for squirrels	1,700	Explorers	589
Collecting for Porchlight charity	804		<u>4,280</u>
Payment for Jamboree catering	801	<b>Other expenses</b>	
Donation from disabled club	300	Camp (Kent International Jamboree)	4,183
Other donations	123	Badges, Scarves, woggles, clothing	1,358
	<u>10,438</u>	Family camp	1139
<b>Other income</b>		AGM, group Software, leaders exp.	751
Camp contributions	2,674	Contribution for World Jamboree	500
Fees for family camp - Hopehill	1,455		<u>7,931</u>
Section night contributions	1,144	<b>Overheads</b>	
Clothing sales	493	Gas	1712
Other (see 'notes to the accounts')	387	Insurance (hall)	1,045
Squirrels Xmas fair	139	Rent (land)	1,000
	<u>6,292</u>	Cleaning and consumables	960
		Electricity	506
		Water	159
		Performing rights society	149
			<u>5,531</u>
		<b>Charitable contributions</b>	
		Porchlight	804
			<u>804</u>
		<b>Group improvements/repairs</b>	
		New windows	3,700
		Equipment and noticeboards	1544
		General	882
			<u>6,126</u>
<b>GROSS INCOME</b>	<u>25,866</u>	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<u>27,801</u>
<b>Opening Balance 1st April 2022</b>	£	<b>Bank and cash reconciliation at 31 March 2023</b>	
Bank current account (net of uncleared cheques)	34,723	Cash and cheques on hand;	£
Bank deposit account	87	Squirrels	33
Cash in hand	532	Beavers	492
	<u>35,342</u>	Cubs	575
		Scouts	16
Plus Income	25,866	Explorers	0
Total	<u>61,208</u>	Hyper card	33
			<u>1,149</u>
Less expenditure	27,801	Cash in current accounts*	32,171
		Cash in deposit account	87
<b>Closing balance at 31 March 2023</b>	<u>33,407</u>	<b>Closing balance at 31 March 2023</b>	<u>33,407</u>

\*This current account figure excludes the £4,280 capitation cheques which cleared early April

**Notes to Accounts & Treasurers Report**

**Records and unrecorded income**

Whilst, as ever, the records were very good the change from collecting cash to having direct payments to the bank account meant that some income was received but not clearly allocated. Measures have been taken to prevent a recurrence of this issue and the point is identified in the 'Other Income' section of the profit and loss account. I would like to thank Neil for his invaluable assistance in sorting this out.

The limited nature of the explorers records mentioned in last years accounts was resolved during this year. The explorers are still, to some extent, funding their own expenses on troop nights.

**Scout Bank**

With an opening balance of £1,700 (of which £61 is an individual scouts) and using £126 towards troop nights along with using £325 towards a Christmas party the closing balance was £1,249. £61 of the £1,249- £61 of which is still an individual scouts.

**Donations**

During the year our longest-running regular hall users, the "Dartford Club for the Disabled", finally closed its doors. We wish to thank for all their support over the years - and a special thanks to Maggie Scholley for a donation to the Scout Group on the clubs last day.

We would like to thank Rig Lift for donating the equipment and staff to move (and then replace ) one of the containers and to thank McAllister Brothers who donated the equipment and staff to build a new base for that container.

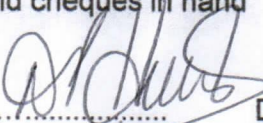
**The Hall**


We have continued improving the hall and grounds this year, including the installation of new windows, new fencing (a big thanks go to Gavin, Shaun, Andrey and others who assisted) along with smaller improvements such as the new noticeboards.

**Statement of assets and liabilities**

	£
Opening funds	35,342
Income	25,866
Expenses	-27,801
Closing funds	33,407
Decrease in funds	-1,935

<b>Assets</b>	£
New equipment costs	1,544
Hall improvement costs	3,700
Taken to P+L account	5,244
Net improvement costs	0
Deposit account	87
Current accounts	32,171
Cash and cheques in hand	1,149
	33,407

Signed  Des Harris  
 County Chair  
 Date 22/1/24

Signed  Philip Hamblin  
 Treasurer  
 Date 22.1.24

## Unqualified report for a non-company charity preparing receipts and payments accounts with a gross income of £250,000 or less in the relevant financial year

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### Independent examiner's report to the trustees of 9<sup>th</sup> Dartford Scout Council

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the 9<sup>th</sup> Dartford Scout Group for the year ended 31 March 2023.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the 9<sup>th</sup> Dartford 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 9<sup>th</sup> Dartford Scout 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.

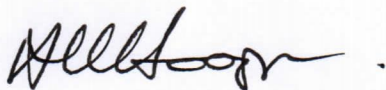
### Independent examiner's statement

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 9<sup>th</sup> Dartford Scout Group as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

Signed:



Name: Helen Hooper

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): FCCA

Address: 7 Leyton Cross Road, Dartford, Kent, DA2 7AP

Date: 31/12/2023

**NINTH DARTFORD SCOUT GROUP**

England & Wales - Charity number 271270

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# Accounts

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## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From **1 April 2021** Period start date To **31 March 2022**  
Period end date

Charity name: **Ninth Dartford Scout Group**

Charity registration number: **271270**

### Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<b>Ninth Dartford Scout Group is a trust established under Scouting rules (see detail on the background on this point in the Governance section later in this report) and its purpose is that which is common to all scouts. The Aim of The Scout, Association is 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. The method of achieving the Aim of the Association is by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training, based on the Scout Promise and Law and guided by adult leadership.</b>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<b>As with other Scout Groups Ninth Dartford has the aim of promoting the development of young people by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive learning based on the scout promise and law. The hut is used for functions and as a base, the former is as diverse as visits from services such as the fire brigade, interest groups such as animal keepers, sleepovers and learning new skills such as cooking. The equipment – we are scouts, so think tents and camping- is now in containers, which has allowed us to increase the available space in the hut for use at meetings.</b>  <b>Like other groups the hut had closed during Covid, reopening during this year with Government and Council support.</b>

		<b>Further details on how that support was and is still being used are shown later in this report as a part of the financial review section.</b>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	<b>The trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit</b>

**Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	
Other		

**Achievements and Performance**

	SORP reference	

<p>Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.</p>	<p>Para 1.20</p>	<p><b>Covid had a profound effect on our activities during his year. Having reopened in accordance within government guidelines we not only resumed providing the activities mentioned elsewhere in this report but we made substantial changes to the grounds and expanded the group to include Squirrel, bringing scouting to 4 to 6 year olds for the first time.</b></p>
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**Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

<p>Achievements against objectives set</p>	<p>Para 1.41</p>	
<p>Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set</p>	<p>Para 1.41</p>	
<p>Investment performance against objectives</p>	<p>Para 1.41</p>	
<p>Other</p>		

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<b>This review takes the form of the annual accounts, which have been provided to the charity Commission and show that the charity is solvent and has sufficient reserves. But must be considered in accordance with other information in this section.</b>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	<b>The policy is to hold reserves of at least £3,000, sufficient to cover at least three months essential running costs.</b>
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	<b>The balance sheet shows £35,342. This is as a result of funds from Covid restart and other Covid grants being held to allow the group to; keep the weekly subs at their present rate for at least another year; cover the cost of increased cleaning and other Covid related costs; develop the grounds so that they can be used for more outdoor activities (Covid safety) and to improve the fuel efficiency of the premises. Much of this work was done in the year to March 2023.</b>
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	<b>Not applicable</b>
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	<b>Not applicable</b>
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	<b>There are none.</b>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	<b>For this year it was a Covid restart grant along with a grant from Children In Need. The latter was received towards the end of the year so, as with the earlier Covid grant, whilst most was spent in this year some will be seen in the 2023 accounts.</b>
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	<b>The Group Executive Committee has identified the major risks to which they believe the Group is exposed, these have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate against them. The main areas of concern that have been identified are:</b>

		<p><b>Damage to the building, property and equipment. The Group would request the use of buildings, property and equipment from neighbouring organisations such as the church, community centre and other Scout Groups. Similar reciprocal arrangements exist with these organisations. The Group has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss.</b></p> <p><b>Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members. The Group through the capitation fees contributes to the Scout Associations national accident insurance policy. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities.</b></p> <p><b>Reduced income from fund raising. The Group is primarily reliant upon income from subscriptions and fundraising. The group does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Committee could raise the value of subscriptions to increase the income to the group on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently but as covered elsewhere in this report a decision has been made to use Covid grants, in part, to keep the subs at current levels until at least April 2023.</b></p> <p><b>Reduction or loss of leaders. The group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the group. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular section or the group as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the Group.</b></p> <p><b>Reduction or loss of members. As at 31 March 2022 the group provided activities for all young people aged 4 to 18. It still does. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular section or the group as whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the Group.</b></p>

Other		
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## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	<b>The Groups governing documents are those of the Scout Association . They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turns gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and The Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.</b>
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	<b>The Group is a trust established under its rules which are common to all scouts</b>
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	<b>The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy Organisation and Rules of the Scout Association</b>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	<p><b>The Group is managed by the Group Executive Committee, the members of which are the 'Charity Trustees' of the Scout Group which is an educational charity. As charity trustees they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.</b></p> <p><b>The Committee consists of 3 independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary together with the Group Scout Leaders, individual section leaders and parent's representation and meets every 2 months.</b></p> <p><b>This Group Executive Committee exists to support the Group Scout Leader in meeting the responsibilities of the appointments and is responsible for:</b></p> <p><b>The maintenance of Group property; The raising of funds and the administration of Group finance; The insurance of persons, property and equipment; Group public occasions; Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support;</b></p>
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		<b>Appointing any sub committees that may be required;</b> <b>Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support;</b> <b>Appointing any sub committees that may be required;</b> <b>Appointing Group Administrators and Advisors other than those who are elected.</b>
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

### Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	<b>Ninth Dartford Scout Group</b>
Other name the charity uses	<b>Informally it uses '9<sup>th</sup> Dartford Scout Group'</b>
Registered charity number	<b>271270</b>
Charity's principal address	<b>The Charity is a part of the Scouting Organisation.</b>

**Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity**

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	<b>Gavin Wells</b>	<b>Chair</b>		
2	<b>Neil Gearing</b>	<b>Group Manager</b>		
3	<b>Philip Hamblin</b>	<b>Group Treasurer</b>		
4	<b>Shaun Ford</b>	<b>Trustee</b>		
5	<b>Wilson Couchman</b>	<b>Trustee</b>		
6	<b>Paul Warner</b>	<b>Trustee</b>		
7	<b>Desmond Harris</b>	<b>Trustee</b>		
8	<b>Pauline Daly</b>	<b>Trustee</b>		
9	<b>Julie Southcott</b>	<b>Trustee</b>		
10	<b>Jack Ford</b>	<b>Trustee</b>		
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

**Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved**

Director name	Not applicable	

**Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity**

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
	<b>Not applicable</b>	

## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	None
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

### Additional information (optional)

#### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
		Not applicable

#### Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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### Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

Not applicable
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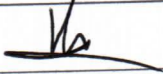

### Other optional information

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# Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Philip John Hamblin	NEIL CHRISTOPHER GEARING
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Treasurer	GROUP MANAGER
Date	22 January 2023	22-JAN-24

**9th DARTFORD SCOUT GROUP**

**Accounts**

**Year Ending 31st March 2022**

**9th DARTFORD SCOUT GROUP**

**Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2022**

<u>Income</u>	£	£
Subscriptions		
Beaver Section		2,384
Cub Section		1,320
Scout Section		1,660
Explorers		1,272
		<u>6,636</u>
<b>Covid support from Government and Council</b>		
Restart Grant		<u>8,000</u>
<b>Grant from Children in need</b>		
Amount received if it could be spent by 31 March £14,877		
Amount not spent by March £1,271		
Final grant		<u>13,606</u>
<b>Fund Raising &amp; Donations</b>		
Hall donations (excluding a £100 deposit repaid due to Covid)		5,796
Fundraising for Shelterbox before expenses		543
Bernard Sunley Foundation grant		<u>2,000</u>
		<u>8,339</u>
<b>Other income</b>		
Camp contributions		1,500
Section night contributions		378
Garment sales		221
		<u>2,099</u>
<b>GROSS INCOME</b>		<u><u>38,680</u></u>

<b>Opening Balance 1st April 2021</b>	£
Bank current accounts (net of uncleared cheques)	36,408
Bank deposit account	87
Cash in hand	27
	<u>36,522</u>
Plus Income	38,680
Total	<u>75,202</u>
Less expenditure	39,860
<b>Closing balance at 31 March 2022</b>	<u>35,342</u>

Signed ..... Gavin Wills  
 Dated ..... Group Manager

<u>Expenditure</u>	£
<b>Group expenses</b>	
Section night costs; Beavers	914.00
Cubs	303.00
Scouts	1,064.00
Explorers	50.00
	<u>2,331.00</u>
<b>Capitation</b>	
Group	2,266.00
Explorers	618.00
	<u>2,884.00</u>
<b>Other expenses</b>	
New tents and cooking equipment	6,908.00
Other equipment	1,161.00
Scout and explorer camp	1,382.00
AGM, group Software,	164.00
Clothing, badges, scarves (minus £30 refund)	1,821.00
Leader expenses	78.00
Cleaning and maintaining grounds	1,021.00
Fire safety check	74.00
	<u>12,609.00</u>
<b>Overheads</b>	
Rent (land)	1,000.00
Insurance (hall)	948.00
Water (see notes )	1,867.00
Electricity	382.00
Performing rights society (01 and 02)	198.00
Gas	1,308.00
	<u>5,703.00</u>
<b>Group improvements and repairs</b>	
Metal boundary fence	7,109.00
Line underground waste pipe	3,840.00
Internal wooden fence	1,224.00
Clearing grounds, including for fire pit	1,148.00
Cage for inflammables	865.00
Replace lighting (£345) and other	582.00
	<u>14,768.00</u>
<b>Advance Payments</b>	
Deposit for 2022 Jamboree	1,080.00
	<u>1,080.00</u>
<b>Charity contributions</b>	
Donation to Shelter Box	485.00
	<u>485.00</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<u><u>39,860.00</u></u>

<b>Bank and cash reconciliation at 31 March 2022</b>	£
Cash and cheques on hand;	
Beavers	351.00
Cubs	178.00
Scouts	3.00
Explorers	0.00
	<u>532.00</u>
Cash in current accounts*	34,723.00
Cash in deposit account	87.00
<b>Closing balance at 31 March 2022</b>	<u>35,342.00</u>

\*Excludes £2,495 for the following;  
 £1,224 Cheque for material for wooden fence,  
 cleared early April  
 £1,271 repaid to Children in need on 4 July.

**Water**

Despite having access to water readings and telling the group that their payments were sufficient Castle Water, the collecting agents for Thames Water, found that they had been undercharging the group since 2018, sending us a bill for £1894 in June and refusing to reduce it by one penny despite their negligence. The Group Exec are considering their options as all attempts to have the bill reducing have been refused.

**Susan Hoey**

We were very sad to hear of the passing of Susan Hoey in during 2022. Susan had been our Cub Scout Leader for well over 25 years during the 1970s, 80s and 90s. Like her late husband Tom, Susan was a main-stay of the Scout Group and led the Cubs at all District-run events, carnivals, as well as providing yearly Cub camps. Hundreds of children owe Susan a great debt for providing fun and excitement during their formative years

**Records**

I would like to thank the leaders for their records. The Explorers records were limited to subs, capitation and a couple of expense as the other expenses were met by the explorers.

**Legal action**

The attempt by a member of the Darford Amateur Dramatic Society to sue the Group for alleged injury caused by her driving straight into a gate which he had been using for year was successfully challenged. The company which insured the now re-arranged car was not a party to this egregious nonsense claim which was made through a no win no fee lawyer.

**Squirrels**

Thanks to the efforts of parents - for which a big thank you- we were delighted to set up a Squirrel group on 21 March 2022. Those first few weeks were funded through a grant which was received in May 2022 and which will be shown in the 2023 accounts.

**Covid-19 Pandemic**

The Hut was reopened for use within Government Guidelines during this year, and as mentioned below the Group is grateful for the Covid restart Grant which was instrumental in funding the required

**Donations**

The group would like to thank Dartford Borough Council for including them in the recipients of Covid restart grant recipients. The £3,500 'salute for youth' grant mentioned in last years accounts was supplemented by another generous contribution from the Bernard Sunley Foundation and group funds to pay for a new fence, which was built this year. We also thank Vodafone for providing free wi-fi and Bellway Homes for providing our fire pits, which they built during this year.

During March The Group were the recipient of a generous Grant from Children in Need, using that grant to update our camping equipment and the hut, the latter includes making it more energy efficient.

**The Hall**

A number of improvements and repairs were made during this year, as identified in the profit and loss account. Many were funded by outside bodies as shown in the above account note 'Donations'.

**Scout Bank**

The 'scout bank' balance forms a part of the opening and closing funds in the current accounts. The opening balance stood at £3,070 and with £1,369.27 having been spent on troop nights and camps it now stands at £1,700.81 of which £1,639.38 is general funds and £61.43 is specific to an individual.

**Statement of assets and liabilities**

	£		£		£
Opening funds	36,522	Assets		Closing funds	
Income	38,680	New equipment costs	8,069	Deposit account	87
Expenses	39,860	Hall improvement costs	14,768	Current accounts	34,723
Decrease in funds	-3,338	Taken to P+L account	22,837	Cash and cheques in hand	532
Closing funds	35,342	Net improvement costs	0		35,342

Signed .....

Philip Hamblin

Date .....

Treasurer

## Scrutineer's Report to the Trustees of the 9<sup>th</sup> Dartford Scout Group Scout Council

I report on the accounts of the Group/District for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

### 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.

### Scrutineer's Statement

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

Signature..... 

Name: Helen Hooper

Address: ...7 Leyton Cross Road.....

.....Dartford.....

.....Kent.....

.....DA2 7AP.....

Date: 13/1/23.....

**NINTH DARTFORD SCOUT GROUP**

England & Wales - Charity number 271270

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# Accounts

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## 9th Dartford Scout Group

(Charity No. 271270)

Headquarters: Heath Lane, Dartford, Kent

### AGM – GSL's report

Period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021

Well, what an 'interesting' year that was !

Coronavirus was the main topic throughout the whole year, as we all came to terms with providing Scouting in a whole new way – online, or, virtual Scouting.

Trying to provide enjoyable and varied weekly online meetings for our sections was a real challenge, which our leaders met head-on, and succeeded (mostly 😊).

The Scout Group did not actually return to full face-to-face meetings until Easter 2021, so there is not much to report upon.

As I mentioned at the end of last year's report, in the months following April 2020 we were joined by Jack Ford and William Southcott who are now our Cub Scout Leader and Assistant Cub Scout Leader, respectively.

At the same time both Henry Metcalfe (Assistant Explorer Scout Leader) and John Atkins (Cub Scout Leader) left the Scout Group. Henry to concentrate upon his career, and John moved to Ireland. We wish them every success in their new ventures.

As a Group we agreed not to charge weekly subscriptions as we were not meeting face-to-face. The Group's executive committee were reassured by the treasurer that we could pay all outgoings (utilities, insurance, etc) without putting the Group in financial difficulties. Big thank you to the exec committee, and especially Phil Hamblin (our treasurer) for providing this support to the sections.

As always, I am very grateful for all the time our leaders give to their sections, without them 9<sup>th</sup> Dartford Scout Group would not exist - THANK YOU.

Since the easing of restrictions and a return to face-to-face meetings, our Beaver Colony has seen a massive influx of new members. We still have room for more Cubs and Scouts, so please pass the word to parents of your children's friends, and get more children to join us.

I will leave each section leader to speak about their section and what they got up to during the past year. I do not want to steal their thunder.



## 9th Dartford Scout Group

(Charity No. 271270)

Headquarters: Heath Lane, Dartford, Kent

Lastly, although outside the year under review, I would like to acknowledge the fantastic work undertaken to complete the boy's toilet refurbishment and more recently; the clearance of the grounds in preparation for a fire pit, a gas cage and new fencing.

To finish, I will look ahead to the future. As you may have seen on national media, a brand new section to Scouting has been introduced. The new section is called SQUIRRELS – this section will be open to 4-6 year olds. For our Group to have a new section, we require new leaders & helpers; so if you fancy a new adventure, please let me know.

**Neil Gearing**

**Group Scout Leader**

**9th DARTFORD SCOUT GROUP**

**Accounts**

**Year Ending 31st March 2021**



Notes to Accounts & Treasurers Report**Bob Duncan**

Bob has been our Group Chairman for five years and has kept the exec meeting on a professional footing. With Bob's guidance the "Parent Induction" evening were started, which gave new parents an insight to what each section has to offer, which adults are the leaders & assistants in these sections, how parents can help either with a training section or on the executive committee, or helping with cleaning and upkeep of the scout hall and its grounds. Bob was also the leading light for race nights and other fundraising. Having been a leader in Dartford and an Assistant District Commissioner, Bob was very supportive of the Leaders' endeavours and appreciated their time and commitment. This year, Bob decided to hand over the Chairmanship of the Scout Group. Many thanks Bob for all you have done to improve the management of the Scout Group.

**Gavin Wills**

We welcome Gavin as our new Chair.

**John Atkins**

John was an inspiring member of our executive committee for over ten years, in addition to leading the Cub Pack with distinction, and bringing in welcome funds through his tireless work looking after those who wished to make use of the hall. John was also instrumental in organising the recent extension of our lease on the land on which the hall is sited. In October 2020 John left England to spend his retirement in Ireland and we all wish him a long and happy retirement and thank him for his work with the group.

**Records**

As ever I'd like to thank all the leaders for their records- not that there was a need for many this year!

**Covid-19 Closure of the Hall**

As mentioned in the notes to last years accounts the group was affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. In line with Government and Scout Association advice the 9th Dartford Scout Group ceased activities and closed the hall in Mid March 2020, with little activity taking place in the hall for the next 15 months. Support from the Government, through Dartford Council, has been sufficient to cover the hall and capitation costs for this year and the next year as well as replacing fundraising events and gift aid (as there will be no claim this year and a restricted claim next year) and paying for increased cleaning costs moving forward. Some of these funds will be used to improve the hall and grounds and some will be kept in case there are future pandemic or other restrictions.

**Covid 19- Payments for cancelled events.**

The ferry company have given the group credit of £545 for the summer camp ferry which was cancelled. Parents had already made payments of £355 towards that camp, and the Group will hold on to those funds until the parents wish them to be used later- perhaps for the Kent International Jamboree unless those parents would prefer that they were repaid. If you would like a repayment please let the leader know.

**Donations**

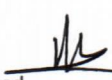
Dartford Council have kindly given the Group a £3,500 contribution from the 'Salute For Youth' fund and these funds have been put to one side towards replacing the fence around the hall and grounds.

**Scout Bank**

The 'scout bank' balance forms a part of the opening and closing funds in the current accounts. The opening balance stood at £1,891 and receipts received in the previous year and which totalled £1,179 were added to it during this year so it now stands at £3,070 all of which is scouting rather than individual scout's funds.

**Statement of assets and liabilities**

	£
Opening funds	15,862
Income	27,663
Expenses	-7,003
Increase in funds	11,801
Closing funds	<b>36,522</b>
Assets	£
New equipment costs	955
Taken to P+L account	<b>955</b>
Net improvement costs	0
Deposit account	87
Current accounts	36408
Cash and cheques in hand	27
	<b>36,522</b>

Signed  Philip Hamblin  
Group Treasurer

Date 30/9/21

## Independent examiner's report to the trustees of 9<sup>th</sup> Dartford Scout Council

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the 9<sup>th</sup> Dartford Scout Group for the year ended 31 March 2021.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the 9<sup>th</sup>. Dartford 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 9<sup>th</sup>. Dartford Scout 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 9<sup>th</sup>. Dartford 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.

Signed:



Name: Helen Hooper

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies: **FCCA**

Address: 7 Leyton Cross Road, Dartford, Kent, DA2 7AP

Date: 20/2/21