

Report of the Trustees – year ending 31st March 2024

Charity details

Name	Leander (Kingston) Sea Scout Group
Website	https://www.leanderseascouts.co.uk/
Reg. charity number	290029
Scout Association no.	5969
Address	92 Lower Ham Road, Kingston upon Thames, KT2 5BB
Trustees (10)	Robin Burr, Jo Connolly, Russell Constable, Penny D'Souza (Secretary), Andrew Jackson (Chair of Trustee Board), Cathy Johnson, Simon Leo, Paul Lomas-Clarke (Treasurer), Tim Pullen, Samantha Sing

Structure, governance and management

The Group is governed and regulated by the current Policy, Organisation and Rules of the Scouts (National body) association). Trustees are elected to the Trustee Board at the Annual General Meeting of the Group Scout Council, according to Scout Association procedures. A new Constitution consistent with the national body Scout Association guidance was formally adopted.

Objectives and activities

Leander offers fun and challenging activities for about a hundred boys and girls from the age of six. Young people in Scouting get to try new activities, learn team building and leadership skills and discover their potential. Leander (Kingston) has a riverside headquarters with a large fleet of canoes, kayaks, dinghies and rowing 'gigs', allowing a full range of boating activities for children from all backgrounds.

Status summary

The Group continues to be in demand and is at or near its capacity, given the facilities, equipment and staffing. The Group continues to offer exciting opportunities for young people and is on a sound financial footing. Recruitment of new parents to be leaders and volunteers continues to be a challenge.

Achievements and performance

The Group continued to operate at a small financial surplus (income £46k, expenditure £40k) with the additional income from hirers and fundraising (approx. £14k) continuing to play an important part. Additional fundraising activities in the year included support to Kingston's annual dragon boat event.

The Trustee Board was able to approve and commission several improvements to the building and facilities. These included:

- repairs to the Home Counties gig rowing boats
- the purchase of two new kayaks
- the training of staff and young leaders

The annual Great River Race saw two of the Leander crews achieve 'best in class' results.

Governance

We successfully welcomed and enrolled two new parents as Trustees, both of whom are playing an active role in the Trustee Board meetings and the running of the Group.

The Group made a number of changes to the Governance processes, adopting a new Constitution in line with new Scouts guidance as well as starting the implementation of a new teams organisation.

An updated Group Risk Register was created, and the Trustees adopted and implemented new rules around meeting quorums.

The Trustees provided support to a revised Admissions process which is now in operation. The goals of this process are to simplify the administration and to encourage a broader, more diverse membership in keeping with the local community it serves.

Financial and fundraising

One of the parent Trustees organised marshalling and set up activities for the annual Kingston Dragon Boat event; this raised significant funds for the Group and engaged several parents in supporting this important local community activity. Another of the Trustees raised money in the 'Movember' campaign, kindly donating the proceeds to the Group.

The Treasurer carried out market research and moved some of the reserve funds to new saving accounts, thereby earning interest of £1.5k.

The regular hiring out of the premises continued. Most of the hirers are regular users of the building, and the Group plays an important role in supporting these local community and youth activities.

Headquarters building and equipment maintenance

We completed the painting of both stairwells and for the first time included high-visibility paint on the nosings, which was one of the items for completion on our Safety Audit.

The Board approved the funding of emergency roof repairs when one of the roof lights started to leak.

The water heater in the disabled toilets was replaced as the old unit was faulty.

One of the Trustees organised a parent 'deep cleaning' weekend at HQ, when the kitchen (galley) was given a thorough cleaning and tidying.

The regular (2 per month) safety visual 'walk around' inspections continued.

The licensing of craft and certification of the powered safety boats was completed with the Environment Agency.

Risks and looking ahead

The Trustees will continue to perform their oversight role and support the important activities of succession planning and increasing parent involvement.

One of the significant and longer-term risks to Leander's activities is the deterioration in the water quality of the River Thames. Leander's involvement in a local Council initiative "The Voice of the River" will continue.

Andrew Jackson (Chair of Trustees)

Leander (Kingston) Sea Scout Group

Registered Charity number 290029

Income and Expenditure Account for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	31.3.24	31.3.24	31.3.24	31.3.23	31.3.23	31.3.23
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income						
Subs		18,528.76			17,320.63	
Gift aid		1,900.68			2,529.54	
Donations and Grants		3,563.17			1,342.50	
Use of HQ		13,052.29			13,748.87	
Use of boats		489.84			695.27	
Fund raising		1,029.17			143.68	
Camp		3,870.00			4,970.00	
Great River Race		0.00			0.00	
Uniform sales		1,655.32			502.67	
Interest received		1,518.40			118.22	
Total Income			45,607.63			41,371.38
Expenditure						
Capitation		4,592.00			4,274.50	
HQ Maintenance	7,673.74			6,262.39		
Insurance	2,830.88			2,541.06		
Services	1,531.77			2,018.60		
Council tax/Environment Agency	1,120.82			1,637.83		
		13,157.21			12,459.88	
Boats						
Purchase/sale	300.00			1,768.63		
Maintenance	5,562.86			1,779.59		
Insurance	3,093.78			2,666.71		
		8,956.64			6,214.93	
Camp	2,473.83			3,178.80		
GRR	1,589.76			0.00		
ining	2,088.00			725.00		
Activities/meetings	3,765.82			1,948.75		
Uniform	2,325.91			1,617.54		
Equipment	71.17			1,922.13		
Administration & Misc.	707.00			917.59		
		13,021.49			10,309.81	
Total Expenditure			39,727.34			33,259.12
Surplus (deficit) for the Year			5,880.29			8,112.26

Bank Accounts:

Community Account - Debit Card			438.53	697.76
Current Account			4,220.34	2,528.10
Deposit Accounts	56,135.44	5,720.92	61,856.36	57,409.08
	C&C	Barclays		
Total at Bank			66,515.23	60,634.94

Leander (Kingston) Sea Scout Group

Independent Examiner's Report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ending
31 March 2024.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

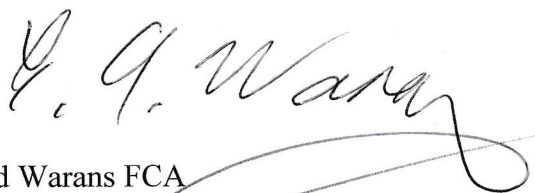
examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act,
to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act, and
to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements: to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act have not been met; or which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Edward Warans FCA
Tanfield, Hogspudding Lane
Newdigate
RH5 5DU

10.7.2024