

Trustees' Annual Report

For the period

From (start date)

0	1	0	4	2	4
---	---	---	---	---	---

 to end date

3	1	0	3	2	5
---	---	---	---	---	---

Section A

Reference and administration details

Charity name

89th Reading (Milestone Wood) Scout Group

Other names the charity is known by

The 89th

Registered charity number (if any)

2 9 4 4 8 6

HQ registration number

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Charity's principal address

89th Reading Scouts HQ

Jefferson Close, Emmer Green,

Reading

Postcode

R

G

4

8

U

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	Robin Kent	Group Scout Leader	
2	Colin Blount	Chair	
3	Bill Foster	Treasurer	
4	Richard Chambers	Administrator	11/06/2024-31/01/2025
5	John Wright		
6	Julian Rae		
7	Nicholas Willenbrock		
8	Natalie McCabe		
9			
10			
11			
12			
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

Section B**Structure, governance and management**

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document

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. The 89th Reading Scout Council is the electoral body that supports Scouting at the 89th. It is the body to which the Trustee Board is accountable. The Trustee Board is a team of volunteers who work together, as charity Trustees, to make sure the Scouts is run safely and legally. At the heart of their role is a focus on strategy, performance and assurance.

(e.g. trust deed, constitution)

How the charity is constituted

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

(e.g. trust, association, company)

Trustee selection methods

(e.g. appointed by, elected by)

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

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

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

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 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. The Trustee Board consists of the Chair, Treasurer and 6 Trustees (including 1 Ex Officio Trustees, and 5 elected Trustees) and meets once every term.

Members of the Trustee Board complete Being a Scouts Trustee learning within the first 6 months of joining the Board.

This Group Trustee Board exists to make sure the charity is well-managed, risks are assessed and mitigated, buildings and equipment are in good working order, and everyone follows legal requirements and the organisation's policies and rules. They are supported by a management team who are responsible for areas such as the building, H&S, waiting list and subscriptions. Their support helps other volunteers run high-quality and safe programmes that gives young people skills for life.

Section B	Structure, governance and management (continued)
	<p>Risk and Internal Control. A full audit of the premises and grounds was carried out using the Scout Association template in 2024. The Group 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:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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. Risk Assessments for fixed activity equipment are regular reviewed and updated and a schedule maintained.</p> <p>Reduced income. The Group is primarily reliant upon income from subscriptions, the letting of the building and activity centre to other groups and users, and fundraising. The group does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Board could raise the value of subscriptions to increase the income to the group on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>

Section C	Objectives and activities
Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document	<p>The Purpose of Scouting The charitable object of the 89th Reading Scout Group (the 89th) is to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual social and spiritual potential as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.</p> <p>The Values of Scouting As Scouts we are guided by these values:</p> <p>Integrity - We act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy and loyal.</p> <p>Respect - We have self-respect and respect for others.</p> <p>Care - We support others and take care of the world in which we live.</p> <p>Belief - We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes.</p> <p>Co-operation - We make a positive difference; we co-operate with others and make friends.</p>
Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects	<p>This is achieved by weekly unit meetings following Scouting Programmes across 2 Beaver Colonies, 3 Cub Packs, 3 Scout Troops and an associated District Explorer Unit that meets at the 89th. In total over 200 young people per week experience Scouting at the 89th Reading. Scouting takes place when young people, in partnership with adults, work together based on the values of Scouting; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enjoy what they do and have fun. • Take part in activities indoors and outdoors. • Learn by doing. • Take responsibility and make choices. • Undertake new and challenging activities; and • Make and live by their promise.
Additional details of the objectives and activities (optional information but encouraged as best practice)	
<p>You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • policy on grantmaking; • contribution made by volunteers; • policy on investments. 	<p>Wherever possible we focus on outdoor activities, including hikes, camps, expeditions and adventurous activities for all groups.</p> <p>The delivery of scouting activities at the 89th is through volunteers. Without the dedication and support of all the adult volunteers in the many and varied roles that they undertake, we would not be able to offer the quality and variety of activities we currently deliver. We currently have over 50 active volunteers and we are continuing to attract new adult volunteers and look forward to welcoming more in the future</p>
Public benefit statement	<p>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.</p>

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Chair's Statement:

A hugely successful year in which we have provided Scouting to around 220 young people each week which has only been possible because of the support of approximately 50 adult volunteers.

I would like to thank all those volunteers and young leaders for the time and effort they have put into the Group over the past 12 months and of course a thank you to Robin Kent the Group Lead Volunteer who manages all the volunteers and keeps them focused on providing for the young people

Thanks also to all the members of the Trustee Board and Management Team for their hard work in looking after what I term the "business" side of the group which allows the section volunteers to focus their time on working directly with the young people.

The Group finances are, as can be seen from the accounts, in a good stable order. Thanks to Bill for his work throughout the year for this and for building a budget this last year that we have managed to stick to.

At the last AGM we mentioned that we were looking at the possibility of introducing the younger Squirrels section into the Group. This is still a plan for the future but currently we are struggling to find experienced leaders that are available at the earlier time slot that this younger group would need to run at.

The waiting list for the Group has stabilised well and by the end of this year we envisage will be under control with no one of scouting age not being offered a place.

We have expanded the Scout numbers this year with the opening of the Galahad troop and with the waiting list becoming under control it is likely that later during the year we will consolidate the 3 Cub packs back down to the 2 packs we ran with before the "covid bulge"

So again, a very big thankyou to all those that make the 89th the amazing Group that it is.

Section E	Financial Review
Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves	<p>Reserves Policy</p> <p>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 Trustee Board considers that the group should hold a sum equivalent to 12 months running costs, circa £10,000.</p> <p>The Group held reserves of £10,141 on deposit with instant access at the financial year end. This is in line with the level required for operating expenses.</p> <p>There are no designated funds</p>
Quantify and explain any designations	
Details of any funds materially in deficit (circumstances plus steps to eliminate)	There are no funds in deficit
Further financial review details (optional information)	
<p>You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising); how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity; investment policy and objectives; 	<p>Investment Policy</p> <p>The Group's Income and Expenditure is very small and as a consequence does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer-term investments such as stocks and shares. The Group has therefore adopted a low risk strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies or The Scout Association's Short Term Investment Service.</p> <p>The Group Trustee Board regularly monitors the levels of bank balances and the interest rates received to ensure the group obtains maximum value and income from its banking arrangements. Occasionally this may involve using an account that requires a period of notice before funds may be withdrawn, before doing so the Group Trustee Board considers the cash flow requirements.</p>
Section F	Other Optional Information
Plans for future periods (details of any significant activities planned to achieve them)	Continued reduction of Waiting List. Management of the Covid Bubble through the Group. Management of, and reporting against, new detailed budget. Continue to review potential provision of Squirrels.

Section G**Declaration**

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

<i>Colin Blount</i>	<i>Robin Kent</i>
---------------------	-------------------

Full name(s)

Colin Blount	Robin Kent
--------------	------------

Position (eg Secretary, Chair)

Chair	Group Scout Leader
-------	--------------------

Date

1	4	0	6	2	5
---	---	---	---	---	---

89th Reading (Milestone Wood) Scout Group

Statement of Assets & Liabilities as at 31st March 2025

		2024/5	2023/4
		£	£
Fixed Assets			
Premises		745,778	740,000
Camping Equipment and Premise Contents		14,592	17,024
Climbing Equipment		5,376	4,514
Fixed Activity Equipment		107,918	107,836
Trailers		-	1,500
		873,664	870,875
Current Assets			
Bank Accounts			
00027869 Main account		31,314	31,499
00101692 Gold Sav Acc		10,141	2,001
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		41,455	33,500
		915,119	904,374
Current Liabilities			
Accruals		0	0
District Loan		0	0
Creditor Income in Advance		0	0
		0	0
TOTAL ASSET VALUE AS AT 31st MARCH		915,119	904,374
Capital Account			
Profit and Loss account brought forward		539,374	534,204
Revaluation Surplus		365,000	365,000
Net profit for the year adj for deprec		10,745	5,171
Total funds		915,119	904,374

89th Reading Scouts - Receipts and Payments

Receipts and Payments Summary for the Year Ending 31st March 2025

	2024/5 £	2023/24 £
Income		
Subscriptions Received	30,965	25,400
Donations and grants received	11,757	3,604
Gift Aid	6,259	6,932
Hall/Site rental	10,578	10,447
Neckers	324	505
Unit Outings	15,447	10,254
Less Capitation paid	(12,355)	(9,611)
Total Income	62,975	47,529
Expenses		
Activities Consumables	1,092	748
Activities Health and Safety	1,126	1,176
Activities Jamboree	-	450
Activities Other	6,217	1,168
Activities Unit Expenditure	16,282	13,001
Admin Bank Charges	60	60
Admin Insurances	1,659	1,485
Admin Other incl Licences	216	393
Admin Stationery	55	20
Admin Website /Broadband	543	594
Premises Cleaning	3,300	3,000
Premises Electricity	4,093	4,107
Premises Fire/Security	418	509
Premises First Aid/H & S	59	136
Premises General Rates	89	85
Premises Water charges	569	707
Premises Repairs & Maintenance	8,614	9,198
Premises Telephone	-	-
Premises Waste Removal	499	460
Premises Badges & Neckers	2,820	2,970
Premises Equipment	-	-
Total Expenditure	47,711	40,265
Net profit for the year	15,264	7,265

89th Reading Scouts - Receipts and Payments

Receipts and Payments Summary for the Year Ending 31st March 2025

	2024/5	2023/4 £
Profit per P&L	15,264	7,265
Deprec written off Assets	(4,171)	(2,260)
Add Back		
 Unity Combined Insurance £1564.51 paid for 26/7/24 to 25/7/25 116 days prepaid = £1564.5/365*116	 497	 442
 Unity Personal Accident and Medical Expenses £94 for the period 01/2/25 to 31/1/26 306 days prepaid = £94.00/365*306	 79	 79
 PPLPRS Music Licence £209.56 paid for 18/2/25 to 17/2/26 323 days prepaid = £215.84/365*323	 191	 185
 Less	 Reverse 2023/24	 Reverse 2022/23
Unity Personal Accident and Medical expenses	(79)	(77)
Unity Combined Insurance	(442)	(295)
PPLPRS Music Licence	(185)	(167)
Profit Adjustment prior years	(409)	
	<u>10,745</u>	<u>5,171</u>

89th Reading Scouts - Milestone Woods

Bank Summary for the Year Ending 31st March 2025

		2024/5
		£
Total Receipts for Year		75,330.28
Total Payments for Year		67,375.35
Net Bank movement for the Year		<u>7,954.93</u>
Cash and Bank Balances Brought Forward		33,499.78
Cash and Bank Balances Carried Forward		<u><u>41,454.71</u></u>
Balance as statement	Curr Acc	31,314.19
Balance as statement	Sav Acc	<u>10,140.52</u>
Balance as statement	Total	<u><u>41,454.71</u></u>
Difference		0.00

Scrutineer's report to the trustees

Scrutineer's Report to the Trustees of 89th Reading (Milestone Wood) Scout Group

I report on the accounts of the Group/District for the year ended 31st March 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 on pages 1 to 4.

Scrutineer's Statement

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

Name: David Gillingham
Address: 1 Woodlands Grove
. Caversham
Berkshire
Date: 2nd June 2025