

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

3rd Ongar Scouts Group

Registered charity number (if any)

3 0 2 0 7 0

HQ registration number

1 0 0 1 3 5 2 8

Charity's principal address

The Scout Hut

Love Lane

Ongar

Postcode

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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	Lisa Fullerton	Cub Section Team Member	
2	Laura Day	Group Lead Volunteer	
3	Lucy Doyle	Trustee (Treasurer)	
4	Peter Portman	Trustee (Secretary)	
5	Ruth Ryan		Ended January 2025

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

Trustee selection methods

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

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 2 Trustees and meets every term and the AGM.

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. Their support helps other volunteers run high-quality and safe programmes that gives young people skills for life.

Risk and Internal Control

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 for all payments and a comprehensive insurance policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

Section C	Objectives and activities
	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</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

The group's membership numbers are such that we have full groups with a waitlist. Please see the reports from each section appended at the end of this report.

Some highlights of activities that our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts have been busy with include: **Sleepovers and camps** - the Cubs and Scouts have enjoyed several overnight events, helping them build independence and strengthen teamwork skills. **Community involvement** - all sections took part in local activities such as litter picking, watering and maintaining local planters and participating in the November Remembrance Parade. **Scouts' Community Garden Project** - is a fantastic hands-on initiative where Scouts learned about sustainability while giving back to the local area.

These experiences help our young members develop valuable life skills and foster a strong sense of responsibility and community spirit.

A **Big Thank You** to all our leaders and volunteers. Your dedication and commitment are at the heart of everything we do. You help shape positive experiences and lifelong memories for our young people.

Section E

Financial Review

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 Trustee Board considers that the group should hold a sum equivalent to 18 months running costs, circa £6k.

Fundraising efforts

While fundraising has been a little quieter this year due to other commitments, we are very grateful for the support we have received. A few successful events included the Harry Potter - themed sleepover for Cubs and the Spring Plant Sale.

2024/25 results

There has been an increase in our earnings this year largely due to a very generous legacy received. We will be honouring the donor in the new building when it is completed. The sections have all been full and through considerable effort by the leaders and volunteers a full programme of activities has been run with sufficient surplus to pay for the overheads which are constantly increasing.

Investment Policy

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.

Section F

Other Optional Information

Plans for future periods (details of any significant activities planned to achieve them)

We are proud of the progress we have made, but we are always looking for more adult volunteers to join our team. If you would like to get involved - whether regularly or occasionally - we'd love to hear from you. Your support can make a real difference.

We also continue to raise funds for our ongoing Big Build Project for a new scout hut, every contribution helps us move closer to our goals.


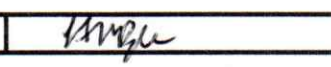
Section G

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)

LAURA DAY LUCY DOYLE

Position (eg Secretary, Chair)

GROUP SCOUT LEADER TREASURER

Date

1 6 0 2 2 6

Footnote: We are aware that the annual report has been submitted after the Charity Commission deadline which is an oversight as we have exceeded the £25,000 threshold to submit accounts and the Trustees' annual report for the first time.

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of 3rd Ongar Scouts

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts on the 3rd Ongar Scouts for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust 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 Trust's 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 Trust 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: JANE MOORE

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

Address: 30 CAUTERBURY WAY, CHEAMSFORD CM11 2XN

SRA ID 373159

Date: 13/2/26

3rd Ongar Scout Group Year Ending 31st March 2025

Receipts and Payments Accounts

	Unrestricted	Restricted Big Build	Total Funds 2024/25	Total Funds 2023/24
Receipts				
Membership Subscriptions	4,350		4,350	5,397
(Less Membership paid on to District)	- 2,115		- 2,115	- 1,890
Net Membership Retained			2,235	3,507
Income for Activities off Site	2,066		2,066	6,109
Handbook/Uniform/Hoodies			-	180
Big Build Fund Raising	-	2,960	2,960	6,303
Just Giving/Easy Fundraising	43		43	78
Rent	2,400		2,400	2,400
Donations	300	1,000	1,300	355
Legacies		14,206	14,206	
			-	-
Total Receipts	7,044	18,166	25,209	18,932
Payments				
Activities and off site activities	3,147		3,147	9,742
Electricity and Gas	1,600		1,600	1,628
Insurance	2,256		2,256	2,173
Repairs and Maintenance	-		-	-
Equipment	271		271	-
Stationery Photocopying and Printing	56		56	-
Uniforms and Badges	671		671	314
OSM	68		68	435
Big Build Fundraising Expenses	268	1,622	1,890	368
Go Cardless fees	120		120	-
Other costs	76		76	-
	-		-	-
Total Payments	8,532	1,622	10,154	14,661
Net Receipts/(payments)			15,056	4,271
Transfers between accounts				-
Cash Funds 31/3/2024			94,096	89,825
Cash Funds 31/3/2025			109,151	94,096

Statements of Assets and Liabilities as at 31st March 2025

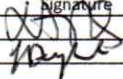
Cash Funds	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds 2024/25	Total Funds 2023/24
Barclays Community Account	31,946		31,946	33,156
Barclays Big Build Community Account		77,887	77,887	60,864
Petty Cash Beaver				59
Petty Cash Group				17
Total Cash Funds	31,946	77,887	109,833	94,096
Liabilities				
Expenses incurred	- 681		- 681	33,156
Total Liabilities	- 681		- 681	94,096
Total Net Assets	31,264	77,887	109,151	94,096

Assets

Scout Hut
Concrete garage
Metal Store 1
Metal Store 2
Metal Store 3

The above receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on 16th February 2026 (the date of the Trustee Board meeting that approved the accounts) and signed on their behalf

by

Signature	Print Name
	Chair
	Treasurer



Our Beavers

In the last year we have seen some of our Beavers move on in their Scout journey and join Cubs. While we will miss them, we know they will have so much fun and the Cubs will be lucky to have them.

We have also welcomed new Beavers who are wholeheartedly embracing Beavers and we know they will continue to make us proud as they work together on new challenges. We would like to thank our older Beavers for making them welcome

Our Adventures

Over each term we try to offer a balance of different activities that allow all of our Beavers to show us their talents and work on areas where they are less confident. Some of our Beavers are quietly creative, others prefer more boisterous activities and a chance to hare around and let off some steam. All we ask is that they give things a go and are supportive of each other. Some highlights have included:

- Using our old rubbish to create something new and useful
- Den building with old sheets inside and sticks in the woods
- A night walk
- Using orienteering skills to track down Easter treats at Skreens Park
- Making Mothers' Day gifts at the Potty Painting Studio and Fathers' Day gifts at the Scout Hut
- Learning Emergency First Aid with one of our lovely parents
- Challenging ourselves at the Nuclear Races

Our Community

One of our aims is to introduce our Beavers to the wider community and see where we can work together locally with other people in the area. We have had some wonderful opportunities to learn and have fun. We would like to thank in particular:

- The Rev. Hazel who has been so welcoming and accommodating in our local church and introduced us to other church groups in the area as well as nurturing our musical talents
- PC Warren Shepherd who taught us all about how we can stay safe and how the Police can help us (and allowed a pack of Beavers to crawl all over his car with the sirens blaring)

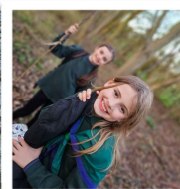
- The Air Ambulance team at North Weald who told us all about the incredible work they do and worked so hard to answer all our questions
- Adam the Bee Man who taught us all about Bees
- The Refill Mill who have been so supportive and helped us learn about how to protect the environment around us
- The Loughton Astronomical Society who taught us about the wider Universe

Our Future

Our wonderful Red Kite is leaving us at the end of this term, we are so grateful for all her hard work. Unfortunately without a replacement Assistant Leader we cannot continue in September, if anyone thinks they can assist us, please get in touch.

ONGAR CUBS

JUNE 25



“Monday night is the best night of the week. I love Cubs!”

Cubs is always action packed and the leaders Lisa Portman and Lisa Fullerton pride themselves on ensuring that every week is different, that new skills are learned and that fun, adventure and friendship can flourish. We could do with one more adult on the team to allow us to do more things. If you are interested we would love to hear from you!

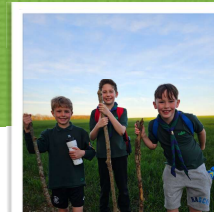
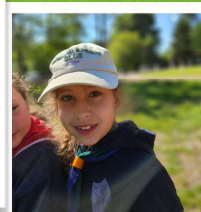
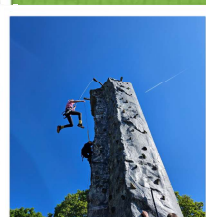
As we reflect upon the past year we feel proud of the huge amount of experiences the Cubs have had. From tending to the community garden and watering the Ongar in Bloom flowers, learning about our local town, crafting, rounders, outdoor games, camp fires, pétanque to hiking, climbing, abseiling, crate stacking, making pancakes, playing badminton, learning about other countries as well as skills to

use around the home to name but a few.

The Harry Potter themed sleepover at Zinc was a success that gave the Cubs the confidence to then camp for two nights in Hertfordshire with Cubs from all over the district. They took part in a range of activities from circus skills, climbing and rifle shooting, to team building games, archery and pedal cars. The pack were amazing on camp and everyone commented on how polite and well-behaved they were.

We are a really young pack with lots of new faces but already these Cubs have made such fantastic memories and we are seeing them grow in confidence, in their leadership skills and in their self-belief. We are proud of them all!

A massive thank you to our young leaders Matthew and Ben for the commitment, dedication and energy they bring to Cubs. They are a real asset! Thank you to all the parents who have helped us too.



Plans for the future...

We still have kayaking and strawberry picking before we finish for the term and going forward we would love the Cubs to earn as many badges as possible and for those who are most ambitious we would like them to achieve their Chief Scout Silver Award. Most recently Hugh Grice achieved this award before moving on to Scouts and we congratulate him for that. We look forward to helping our Cubs grow into community minded, adventurous and well-rounded young people and will continue to provide an exciting and fulfilling Cub programme.

Scouts recap 2024/2025

Scouts started the new term with an overnight camp at Thriftwood. Akela kindly invited us to join cubs and provided breakfast and lunch for us, with Scouts cooking their own evening meal over the camp fire. Activities included a vertical assault course, paddle boarding and the zip line. Scouts also put their pen knife training to good use to create a camp gadget and our older members were pleased to help the Cubs with their raft building challenge.

This term has also seen a visit from PC Shepherd, who talked about his role, answered the Scouts many questions and set them a number of fascinating forensic challenges.

Work towards the local knowledge badge saw the Scouts locating various amenities on a town map before writing route cards from the Scout hut to lead other teams to various locations around the town. These skills were again put to use when we hosted the Kingsmoor Scout group for our 'Chippy Hike' in late October.

We have also enjoyed an evening exploring the Thriftwood 'cave bus'. Scouts donned hard hats and crawled their way through the maze of dark tunnels and passageways. Their support of one another during this challenging adventure was great to witness.

To complete the first half term, we had a visit from Leah from Hurricane Explorers in North Weald, who worked with the Scouts to help them gain their international badge and also a specially designed 'Miles to Moot' badge which celebrates the Explorers upcoming trip to Portugal.

Work on the memorial garden has continued with a fantastic turnout from across the 3rd Ongar Scouting community at the end of September. We are very grateful to James Stack (Highways UK) and Folia for donations of plants, and also to all the parents who have given up their time to work alongside the Scouts on this area.



The Scout section has continued to go from strength to strength, and the addition of six fantastic new Scouts moving up from Cubs means we now have double the number of members of a year ago.

We finished the autumn term with two energetic evenings. Early in December, Scouts met at North Weald Village Hall to join Energize Kickboxing for a taster session, greatly enjoyed by Scouts and leaders! Huge thanks to everyone there for inviting us along. This was followed by our Christmas outing to Quasar in Harlow for an evening of laser tag.

Our focus since January has been on preparation for the annual Royal Forest Brass Monkey event at Thriftwood. Scouts work in teams of 3 - 5 to build their own shelters for sleeping, make camp gadgets and cook their own meals over a campfire. These skills are all scored by a team of assessors with points also awarded for a series of quizzes and challenges on areas such as map skills, knots and morse code.

The event took place during the first weekend in February. Firelighting was a real challenge in the damp conditions and overnight temperatures dropped to -3°C . Despite this, five of our Scouts succeeded in spending the night under the shelter they had made from just tarpaulin, rope and wood found on site. This was the first time any of our current Scouts had participated in the whole event, and the 'Five Guys' team of Matthew, Ben, Logan, Hayden and Teddy did incredibly well, placing 10th out of 37 teams. It was wonderful to see how well all our teams worked together on the day; they were a real credit to 3rd Ongar Scout Group.

Great effort from 3rd Ongar at Brass Monkey... Huge thanks to @FSI~David Hambidge for coming over in the morning to support our Scouts and Oscar for his tremendous efforts to keep everyone's fire alight throughout the day with near impossible conditions. The results are in and we will be sharing them on Wednesday... all our teams have done incredibly well 🥳



Scouts had a fantastic weekend at Skreens Park taking part in the County Backpack Camp. Bases were sited across the countryside from Writtle to Fyfield, with challenges to complete at each location. For the first time this year, we were able to put forward a team in the 'novice' category, without the assistance of leaders. They did an amazing job coming 5th out of 43 teams from across Essex. All teams were exhausted by the end of the weekend, and there were certainly a few blisters, but everyone had really dug deep to keep going and we were incredibly proud of their achievements.



As well as a problem solving and puzzle night working towards the Skills Challenge badge, we also had an amazing visit to the new Air Ambulance station at North Weald. The Scouts were incredibly lucky to meet one of the pilots and a Doctor from the team, who answered their many questions. Huge thanks to everyone for making us so welcome.



We rounded off the spring term with a visit to North Weald Golf Range, where professional coach Max gave us a hour of tuition with some great games and competitions as well. Again, thank you to everyone there for a great evening.

Our two oldest Scouts, Ben and Matthew, have moved on. They have been superb members of the group and will be hugely missed for their leadership, the example they have set and their support of the younger Scouts. We look forward to hearing all about their adventures at Explorers!

To begin the Summer term the Scouts have had another evening working on the community garden, helping to water and try keep the weeds at bay. We then had an evening of tie dye, where the Scouts all had the opportunity to get creative designing their own plate/cutlery bag for camp. The results were amazing.

An ever popular games night was then had, we played rounders, football rounders and the famous chair game, all outside as we were blessed with lovely weather.

The Scouts were then put to the test with an orienteering evening, they were challenged to find certain local locations using maps and route cards they had made. We then met with our friends at Kingsmoor Scouts group as they had invited us to hike with them. We met North Weald and walked a circular route, our eldest Scouts walking without an adult using maps and route cards to navigate. After a slight adjustment, everyone made it back to base.

In order to try complete the Skills Challenge Badge the Scouts had an evening learning about diet and keeping healthy. This included sharing facts about the dangers of drugs, alcohol and smoking, and playing some healthy food related games finishing off with some smoothie making. Not sure if all of the Scouts enjoyed the results!

To continue work in the community, the Scouts litter picked locally around the Love Lane area, and they managed to collect a few bags worth of rubbish, well done Scouts. They also watered the community garden again and the planters in the high street.



The Scouts are looking forward to their summer camp next weekend, which we have an evening planned with camp preparation. This should be a lovely weekend, filled full of fun activities. They will have the opportunity to cook their own food over a camp fire.

To finish off the summer term we are meeting with Kingsmoor Scout Group and then we have a cookout planned for our last session. The meeting with Kingsmoor is for an evening of rifles and angels, some of our older Scouts have had the opportunity go to previously but the younger ones will enjoy this outing. We then plan to invite Scouts families to a campfire cookout to end this years activities.

