

43rd Bristol (St Mary Magdalene, Stoke Bishop) Scout Group

Trustees' Annual Report

for the year ended 31 March 2025

Name	43rd Bristol (St Mary Magdalene, Stoke Bishop) Scout Group
Other names known by	43rd Bristol Scout Group
Registered charity number	302159
Principal address	Scout Hut, 15 - 17 Kewstoke Road, Stoke Bishop, Bristol, BS9 1HA

Names of the Trustee Board members, who are the Trustees:

Name	Office	All served throughout year.
Charles Elderton	Chair	
Nicky Woodfield	Group Lead Volunteer	
Steve Brown	Group Lead Volunteer	
Sarah Elderton	Secretary	
Scott Whitby-Smith	Treasurer	
Jacque Carn	Group Supporter	
Carolyn Jenkins	Fundraising Committee Chair	
Jon Kennedy	Web Master	
Andy Judd	Community Liaison Officer	
Rev'd Jema Ball	Sponsor's Representative	

Description of the charity's trust:

Governing document	The Group's governing documents are those of 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 constituted	The Group is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Scouts.
Trustee selection	The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.
Management	<p>The Group is managed by a Trustee Board, with the majority of the members being 'Charity Trustees' of the Scout Group. This consists of the Chair, Treasurer and Secretary together with the Group Lead Volunteer/s, individual Lead or Team Volunteers and any parent representatives (as required). 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. The Trustee Board meets a minimum of 3 times a year.</p> <p>This Trustee Board exists to support the Group Lead Volunteer/s in meeting the responsibilities of their appointments and is responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the maintenance of Group property • the raising of funds and the administration of Group finance • the insurance of persons, property and equipment • group events and 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.

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Risks and Internal Control	<p>The 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>
Risks	<p>1. Safeguarding members. The Group gives this a high priority and applies the policies laid down by the Scout Association. No Serious Incident Report has had to be made to date.</p> <p>2. Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members. The Group through the capitation fees contributes to the Scout Association's national accident insurance policy. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities. A Risk Assessment of the entire new premises and its environs will be undertaken and agreed by the Trustee Board on completion in late 2025.</p> <p>3. 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 that Section or the Group. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the Group.</p> <p>4. Reduction or loss of members. The Group provides activities for all young people aged 6 to 14. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular Section or the Group as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of that Section or the Group. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the Group.</p> <p>5. Reduced income from fund raising. The Group is primarily reliant upon income from subscriptions and fundraising. The Group does hold reserves to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Committee could then raise the level of subscriptions to increase the income to the Group on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently.</p> <p>6. Damage to the building, property and equipment. The Group would then request the use of buildings, property and equipment from neighbouring organisations such as the church, community groups and other Scout Groups. The Group has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss.</p>
Internal Control	<p>The group has in place systems of internal controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss, these include requiring two signatories/ authorisations for all payments and comprehensive insurance policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered.</p>
The Purpose of Scouting The Values of Scouting	<p>Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.</p> <p>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>
The Scout Method	<p>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 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.
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>

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for the year ended 31 March 2025

Summary of the main achievements during the year

Key achievements across the year included:

- the delivery through our Lead, Team and Parent Volunteers of a unique mix of innovative weekly activities for our Scouts, Cubs and Beavers
- adventurous activities included a visit to a Sikh Temple, attending the District Camp, various summer camps at various locations, completing the Expedition Challenge badge, working on numerous badges including their Science badge, hikes and farewell sleepover in the old Scout Hut. Cubs have undertaken numerous outdoor activities (wide games, orienteering) as well as make use of their new Trinity College temporary base. Both beaver colonies have enjoyed various trips and outdoor activities (nature reserve outings)
- we helped as finisher volunteers at Bristol Half Marathon and attended the St Marys Church Remembrance Service
- our Section numbers (as of May 2025) are: 86 young people, 15 Young Leaders and 38 Adults Volunteers
- we successfully recruited a number of Team and Parent Volunteers and we are now a 'Buddy Group' with the 167th Westbury Scout Group to provide formal 'Welcome Conversations' for new volunteers, as required formally by the Scout Association.
- our adult and scouts achieved a fantastic haul of awards: 5@Chief Scout Gold Awards, 3@Chief Cub Silver Awards, 3@Chief Beaver Bronze Awards, 2@Awards for Merit for Outstanding Service, 1@Chief Scout Commendation for Good Service, 1@Wood Badge, 1@15 Year Long Service Award – we congratulated each for their effort and service
- running successful community events including a Christmas Tree and Plant Sale and also a raffle. Provided a Scout Café for local Open Garden event. Attended a fundraising event on Stoke Lodge
- launched an on-line Buy-a-Brick campaign and a Fundraising Update Newsletter
- gave a talk to the ladies of Clifton Circle and articles published in The Messenger
- we had raised £430k to date for the new Scout Community Centre by March 2025
- achieved our long-term goal of demolishing the old wooden Hut and the start of building our new Scout Community Centre
- following site clearance, the building phase is now underway and £81k had already been spent by March 2025.

Results for the year

The accounts show a General fund surplus of receipts over payments for the year of £2,008 (2024: £868). This surplus was designated or transferred from the General Fund to the Hut Fund. The General Fund reserves at the year end were £10,000 (2024: £10,000). Fundraising during the year was all for the Hut Fund, with net receipts of £156,080 (2024: £43,740). The Hut Fund cash reserves at the year end were £348,811 (2024: £252,909) which included all grants previously promised for when the building work started.

Reserves policy

To generate by fundraising sufficient funds in the Hut Fund to finance the planned rebuilding of the Scout Hut.
To hold sufficient resources in the General Fund to continue the charitable activities of the group should income and fundraising activities fall short. The Trustee Board considers that a sum equivalent to 12 months running costs should be held, circa £10,000.
To transfer any excess above and beyond that needed for the General Fund into the Hut Fund.

Investment policy

The Group has adopted a risk averse strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in deposit or current accounts in mainstream banks.

Plans for the future

- Plans for the future:
- to continue to offer a broad range of exciting adventure and learning activities across the Sections
 - to recruit in new volunteer helpers
 - to continue raise funds needed to fit-out the new Scout Community Centre
 - for the new Scout Community Centre to be built and operational

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Charles Elderton

31 July 2025

Name
Position

Charles Elderton
Chair

43rd Bristol (St Mary Magdalene, Stoke Bishop) Scout Group

Receipts and Payments Account Summary

for the year ended 31 March 2025

	This year General Fund	This year Hut Fund	This year Total	Previous Year Total
	£	£	£	£
Total receipts for the year (page 5)	14,618	160,894	175,512	64,645
Total payments for the year (page 6)	12,610	67,000	79,610	20,037
Surplus receipts over payments for the year	2,008	93,894	95,902	44,608
Transfer from General to the Hut fund	(2,008)	2,008	-	-
Net surplus for the year	-	95,902	95,902	44,608
Cash funds last year end	10,000	252,909	262,909	218,301
Cash funds this year end	10,000	348,811	358,811	262,909

43rd Bristol (St Mary Magdalene, Stoke Bishop) Scout Group

Receipts

for the year ended 31 March 2025

	This year General Fund £	This year Hut Fund £	This year Total £	Previous Year Total £
Donations, legacies and similar income				
Membership subscriptions	11,867	-	11,867	12,042
Less: Membership sub's paid (National and District)	(4,797)	-	(4,797)	(5,115)
Net membership subscriptions retained	7,070	-	7,070	6,927
Donated services - web site	133	-	133	325
Gift Aid (tax claimed on sub's)	2,478	-	2,478	2,040
	<u>9,681</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,681</u>	<u>9,292</u>
Grants				
Activities				
Grant for activities	-	-	-	700
Scouts	2,628	-	2,628	2,310
Cubs	877	-	877	1,521
Beavers 1 (Monday)	609	-	609	320
Beavers 2 (Tuesday)	816	-	816	715
	<u>4,930</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,930</u>	<u>5,566</u>
Fundraising				
Christmas tree sale	-	7,452	7,452	7,038
Individuals' donations	-	24,473	24,473	21,760
Gift Aid (tax recovered on donations)	-	5,630	5,630	13
Quiz Night	-	-	-	312
Cafe Cubbachino	-	1,528	1,528	2,404
Sales of donated items	-	2,160	2,160	1,302
Raffle	-	1,144	1,144	-
Grants from organisations	-	104,410	104,410	12,881
	<u>-</u>	<u>146,797</u>	<u>146,797</u>	<u>45,710</u>
Investment income				
Bank interest	-	14,097	14,097	4,007
Interest on gift-aid tax receivable	7	-	7	70
	<u>7</u>	<u>14,097</u>	<u>14,104</u>	<u>4,077</u>
Total receipts for the year	<u>14,618</u>	<u>160,894</u>	<u>175,512</u>	<u>64,645</u>

43rd Bristol (St Mary Magdalene, Stoke Bishop) Scout Group

Payments

for the year ended 31 March 2025

	This year General Fund £	This year Hut Fund £	This year Total £	Previous Year Total £
Activities				
Scouts	4,071	-	4,071	3,159
Cubs	1,449	-	1,449	1,495
Beavers 1 (Monday)	540	-	540	746
Beavers 2 (Tuesday)	1,490	-	1,490	1,393
Other activities and meeting costs	70	-	70	122
	<u>7,620</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,620</u>	<u>6,915</u>
Premises costs				
Insurance	510	-	510	1,336
Rent	250	-	250	-
Light and Heat	1,190	-	1,190	1,868
Repairs and cleaning	49	-	49	565
Rates	547	-	547	103
	<u>2,546</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,546</u>	<u>3,872</u>
Demolition and rebuilding costs	-	62,186	62,186	564
	<u>-</u>	<u>62,186</u>	<u>62,186</u>	<u>564</u>
Administration expenses				
Insurance	94	-	94	94
Bank charges	620	-	620	735
Web and OSM fees	282	-	282	446
	<u>996</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>996</u>	<u>1,275</u>
Other expenses				
Books and uniforms	-	-	-	10
Badges and scarves	1,053	-	1,053	982
Training and recruitment	180	-	180	30
	<u>1,233</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,233</u>	<u>1,022</u>
Purchase of capital equipment				
Equipment	215	-	215	976
	<u>215</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>215</u>	<u>976</u>
Total charitable payments	<u>12,610</u>	<u>62,186</u>	<u>74,796</u>	<u>14,624</u>
Fundraising expenses				
Christmas tree sale	-	4,279	4,279	4,065
Plants sale	-	485	485	429
Quiz Night	-	-	-	370
Sundry	-	-	-	549
Raffle	-	50	50	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>4,814</u>	<u>4,814</u>	<u>5,413</u>
Total payments for the year	<u>12,610</u>	<u>67,000</u>	<u>79,610</u>	<u>20,037</u>

43rd Bristol (St Mary Magdalene, Stoke Bishop) Scout Group

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

as at 31 March 2025

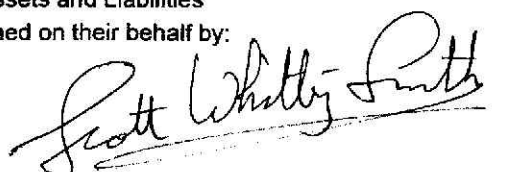
	This year General Fund £	This year Hut Fund £	This year Total £	Previous Year Total £
Assets				
Cash funds				
NatWest Bank Ltd current account	-	97	97	51
CAF Bank Ltd current account	10,000	45,677	55,677	16,286
Flagstone Group Ltd – deposit accounts on platform:	-	-	-	-
-Aldermore Bank	-	85,000	85,000	85,000
-HSBC	-	9,000	1,072	86,072
-HTB	-	75,000	75,000	-
-Investec	-	49,037	49,037	-
-Sainsburys	-	85,000	85,000	-
-Santander	-	-	-	75,500
Total funds	10,000	348,811	358,811	262,909
Other monetary assets				
Bristol City Council's Community Infrastructure Levy grant	-	-	-	30,000
John James Trust grant	-	-	-	20,000
Garfield Weston grant	-	-	-	20,000
Bernard Sunley grant	-	-	-	15,000
Accrued interest receivable	-	6,688	6,688	6,697
Gift Aid tax claims re subscriptions and donations	2,498	5,687	8,185	7,531
	2,498	12,375	14,873	99,228
Non monetary assets for own use				
New Scout Community Centre project costs to date	-	81,628	81,628	16,549
Old Wooden Scout Hut (insured value)	-	-	-	526,000
Scouting equipment (insured value)	15,032	-	15,032	14,883
Scout Hut fixtures and fittings (insured value)	-	-	-	6,201
	15,032	81,628	96,660	563,633
Liabilities				
	-	-	-	-

The Receipts and Payments Account and Statement of Assets and Liabilities were approved by the Trustees on 31 July 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



Charles Elderton

Chair



Scott Whitby-Smith

Treasurer

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees
of the 43rd Bristol (St Mary Magdalene, Stoke Bishop) Scout Group
for the year ended 31 March 2025**

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the 43rd Bristol (St Mary Magdalene, Stoke Bishop) Scout Group for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity Trustees of the 43rd Bristol (St Mary Magdalene, Stoke Bishop) 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 43rd Bristol (St Mary Magdalene, Stoke Bishop) 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:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the 43rd Bristol (St Mary Magdalene, Stoke Bishop) Scout Group as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 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.



Martin Horton
Independent Examiner
Westbury-on-Tym, Bristol

31 July 2025