

# **STEVENAGE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL**

## **Report and accounts**

**Y.E March 31<sup>st</sup> 2025**

### **Trustees Ex Officio**

**District Lead Volunteer**

**Mrs Kerry Hall**

**District Chair**

**Mrs Margaret Notley**

**District Treasurer**

**Mrs Paula Phipps**

### **Trustees**

**Dr Steve Skittrall**

**Mrs Tina Brown**

**Mrs Ruth Jermy**

**Mr Roy Nicholson**

**Mrs Maureen Nicholson**

**Mrs Pauline Shackell**

**Mrs Marie Oakshott**

**Mr Michael Edwards**

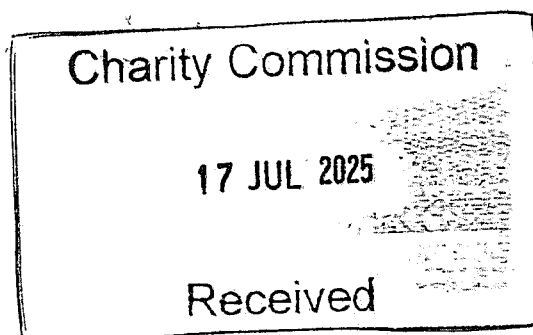
**Mr Jordan Dutt**

**Mr Andy Smith**

### **Bankers**

**Yorkshire Bank Northampton**

**Barclays Bank Stevenage**



**Custodian Trustees**

**The Scout Association Gillwell Park Chingford**

**Other Advisors**

**Mr J R Baucutt FICB MCIPD Independent Examiner**

**District Registration Number with Scout Association** 12216

**District Charity Registration number** 302590

**Contact Name and address**

**Mrs P Phipps 118 Hydeau Way, Stevenage. SG2 9XP**

## **Trustees Report**

### **Aims and Organisation**

The aim of scouting and of this District is to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual and spiritual potentials as individuals and as members of their local, national and international communities. This is achieved by an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training based on the Scout Promise and guided by adult leadership.

Leadership is provided by uniformed Scouters who are appointed by The Scout Association. The youth members are banded into training sections according to their age range: a Squirrel Scout Drey for 4-8 year olds, a Beaver Scout Colony for 6-8 year olds, a Cub Scout Pack for 8-10.5 year olds, a Scout Troop for 10.5 to 14 year olds. These sections comprise the Scout Groups. Older scouts move on into an Explorer Scout Unit for 14-18 year olds which is a District provision. From the age of 18-25 members have the option of joining the District Scout Network, or becoming an Adult Leader (or both).

A Trustee Board, comprising of non-uniformed members and principal leaders, appointed in accordance with the policy organisation and rules of the Scout Association, undertakes management. The Committee members are the Charity Trustees.

Local volunteers give all leadership, management and other support, mostly from families of our youth members. None are paid for their services, but may be reimbursed out of pocket expenses, i.e. postage, telephone calls or travelling. The extent of such reimbursement is small and is declared in the accounts.

The District is autonomous although subject to the policy and rules of The Scout Association. It holds its own equipment and is self financing. District has benefit of land and building at both Poplars Centre, Gresley Way, and at The Canyon, off Valley Way, Stevenage both held by leasehold tenure, peppercorn rent.

Progressive training programmes provide education and personal development for youth members in accordance with the Youth Programme specified by The Scout Association. The training sections each run weekly meetings plus special activities during weekend and holiday periods, all containing the elements of fun and character building training and providing a challenge to the young people.

## **District Treasurer report**

**Y.E 31<sup>s</sup> March 2025**

1995 exactly 30 years ago I was coerced onto the District Team by the then DC Mike Wenn. Half an hour a week and one monthly meeting was all it took were his words.

District has grown in prosperity and size with more buildings and responsibilities since he uttered those words. Even in 1995 it wasn't true!

Sadly, he died six months later before I could challenge him about that statement. I was lucky as Stan Stokes turned out to be a font of information and was a great ally over a couple of difficult years. Especially in 1996 when I had to get groups to give up their individual accounts within the group and have a central account. I was not popular who did this newbie think she was!

I feel like the queen all the prime ministers she knew luckily, I'm not as old as she was YET, But I have seen a fair amount of DCs in Stevenage over the 30 years. And they just inherited me!

The accounts are looking better than I anticipated we spent large amounts at both Canyon and Poplars last year but luckily this year income at Poplars was boosted by the train sale and two grants one from Community Trust and one from HCC. Money spent on Poplars toilets hasn't had such a bad impact on our balances.

There were risk and safety assessments carried out at all sites and tree inspections added to other mandatory inspections at Canyon but even after this they earned their highest amount so far. The site is certainly being used now. Long may it continue. Huw is certainly on the ball sending out invoices.

The accounts show a liability of £6000 this is the balance of the toilet refurbishment so 2026 accounts will reflect this. Hopefully the small increase in rental charges will cover it.

We rely on our long term lets and the poplars toilets have been the cause of many complaints recently as their refurbishment was long overdue. All that we need now is get the building redecorated and it will be up to standard again for a while.

Due to the rather large National increase in membership last year district did not want to put more burden on groups by adding any on. Next year there will have to be a rise. Be warned National will probably take more again.

Shop discounts will hopefully, be reinstated next year so I hope groups will continue to encourage parents to purchase their uniforms from Pauline the little bit each uniform earns for the group all helps. Pauline, as usual has run the shop in her quiet efficient way.

I wish your new Treasurer Tina Brown well and bow out knowing that all my training is up to date for the next 3 years!

A total waste of my time. When will those in charge realise that someone in my position has no contact with actual young members and will never organise or participate in a scouting event we really don't need to know about safety and safeguarding. It is my opinion these training programmes may be putting some people off volunteering for the non uniform positions.

Paula Phipps

**Stevenage District Scout Council**

**Trustees Annual Report for Year Ended 31, March 2025**

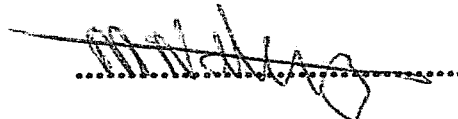
**At the end of the year income reserves amounted to £136193.05**

**The District's policy on reserves is to hold an amount to enable it to support Groups and sections within the Stevenage District, and to maintain the Districts Headquarters Buildings.**

**The District is a trust established under its rules, which are common to all Districts. Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of the Scout Association.**

**The accounts have been drawn up on the receipts and payments basis, which is consistent with the previous year.**

**Approved by the Trustees on ~~July 19~~ 2025 and signed on their behalf**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Margaret Notley', is written over a horizontal dotted line.

**Mrs Margaret Notley District Chair**

**Stevenage District Scout Council**

**Year Ended March 31, 2025**

<u>Receipts for Year</u>	<u>This Year</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
<u>Poplars</u>		
HQ Hire	18688.50	17945.52
Mayors Charity		300.00
Donations/grants	3700.00	382.35
Membership (net)		1321.15
O/S membership		1224.56
County Lottery	13.78	27.56
Interest	1221.04	291.51
International Fund from Explorers	175.00	145.00
St Georges Collection	25.30	
Train Sale	1200.00	
Scouts	2525.00	2557.94
<u>Mini Bus</u>	985.00	1390.00
Jamboree		1529.55
Shop	5381.11	5264.57
<u>Canyon</u>		
Hall Hire	9123.00	6651.84
Activities	1977.25	1022.55
Archery	2236.02	
<u>Nokeside</u>	18000.00	18000.00
<u>Explorers</u>		
Subs/membership	3337.00	3379.00
Activities	1302.00	1058.00
O/s 2024 Activity	387.48	
Gift Aid		1252.38
Equipment		765.00
Christingle	442.00	50.00
Lochearnhead		50.00
Loan Repayment (part)	500.00	

First Stevenage (error)		942.24
ATM mistake	250.00	
<b>Totals for year</b>	<b>71469.48</b>	<b>65550.72</b>

<b>Payments for</b>	<b>This Year</b>	<b>Last Year</b>
<b><u>Poplars</u></b>		
Toilet refurbishment	29280.00	
Plumbing & heating repairs	1366.00	1028.49
Water,heat and light	5770.19	5869.07
BT and Go Daddy	703.68	420.33
Admin	778.08	776.18
Equipment and training	372.94	325.00
Cleaning & Maintenance	4952.53	5016.33
Insurance/Fire and Alarm	1411.30	2088.37
Independent Examiner/	268.90	293.96
Monday nights etc	56.30	12.64
Bank charges	287.50	56.00
Licences	333.76	385.18
Garden Lawnmower repair		482.42
Garage rents	1330.44	808.10
Risk Assessments	609.23	
Laptop/printer		372.00
Data Protection	80.00	80.00
ATM Mistake	250.00	
Christingle Donation	442.00	50.00
Christingle costs	41.25	141.87
Membership refunds		127.41
Jamboree		1527.25
Projector		1088.32
Lochearnhead refunds		154.80
Loans to groups		6000.00
First Stevenage (error)		942.24
<b><u>Shop</u></b>	4464.42	4741.35



<b>SCOUTS</b>		
Activities	2466.70	2356.44
Refunds	50.00	
<b>Mini Bus</b>		
Insurance / MOT / road tax/repairs	2916.04	1751.59
<b>Explorers</b>		
Membership	2222.50	1514.51
Activities	2197.91	1828.58
To international fund	175.00	145.00
Badges and equipment		805.65
<b>Nokeside</b>		
Fire alarm	136.98	516.70
Risk Assessments	150.00	
New Fence	600.00	
<b><u>Canyon</u></b>		
Archery	266.63	
New Heaters	467.50	
Water,Elect.Telephone	3473.15	2212.37
Cleaning /Maintenance	2516.00	2985.29
Annual Inspections	1826.00	831.60
Plumbing repairs	686.00	110.00
Risk assessments	458.00	
Cameras	40.00	
Activities		1828.84
New work		1043.84
Container and transport	1450.00	
Shutters		5462.26
Water leak/toilet refurb		38700.00
Fire and alarm	126.00	1214.59
<b>Total for Year</b>	<b>75021.83</b>	<b>96094.57</b>

**Receipts and Payments Account Summary**

**This Year**

**Previous Year**

**General Fund**

<b>Total Receipts for Year</b>	<b>71469.48</b>	<b>65550.72</b>
<b>Total Payments for Year</b>	<b>75021.83</b>	<b>96094.57</b>
<b>Net Receipts (payments) for year</b>	<b>(3552.35)</b>	<b>(30543.85)</b>
<b>Cash, Bank and similar funds brought forward</b>	<b>139745.40</b>	<b>170289.25</b>
<b>Cash Bank and similar funds carried forward</b>	<b>136193.05</b>	<b>139745.40</b>

**The above account and accompanying statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the trustees on**

**July 1st 2025 and signed on their behalf by**

**Mrs Margaret Notley District Chair**

**Stevenage District Scout Council  
Year Ended March 31, 2022**

<b><u>Assets and Liabilities</u></b>	<b><u>This Year</u></b>	<b><u>Previous Year</u></b>
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**Monetary Assets**

Bank Accounts	134238.53	139,417.66
Cash to Hand	113.02	222.73
Cheque to hand	1841.50	105.01

Other monetary Assets

( Debts due to District)	4206.00	1224.56
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**Badges and shop stock**

	9632.70	6068.06
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Train and Carriages

2000.00

(insured Value)

Trailer

1000.00

Box Trailer

1500.0 2000.00

**Poplars Equipment and**

Furniture (insured value)

30,000.00 30,000.00

Canyon Equipment

(insured value)

60,000.00 60,000.00

**Liabilities** those due within one year

6000.00 349.99

**Contingent Liabilities**

**Canyon**

**Poplars**

38,000.00

**Stevenage District Scout Council Year ended March 31<sup>st</sup> 2025**

# Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Steverape

SCOUT GROUP/DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

I report on the accounts of the Group/District for the year ended March 31st 2025  
which are set out on pages 3 to .....

## Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of Section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under Section 43(7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

## Basis of examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

## Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. 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 Act and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and
  - to comply with the accounting requirements of the Acthave not been met, or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached,
3. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the accounting rules of the Group's/ District's constitution have not been met.

Name: JOHN ROBERT BAUNTT  
Qualification: F.I.C.B. Chartered M.C.I. P.D.  
Address: 6 GRACE WAY, PIN GREEN  
STEVENAGE HERTFORDSHIRE, SG1 5AA  
Date: 10/06/2025

JR Bauntt