

4th Lewisham (1st Hither Green) Scout Group

England & Wales · Charity number 303778

Details

Other names	THE SPRINGBANK SCOUT TRUST (4TH LEWISHAM SOUTH (1ST HITHER GREEN))
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1962-11-21
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address Ted Ray Scout Hall
123-127 Springbank Road
London
SE13 6SS

Phone 02086982478

Email tedrayscouthall@live.co.uk

Website <http://tedrayscouthall.wix.com/hall->

Activities

Objects: The Aim of the Scout Group is that of The Scout Association, to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local national and international communities.

Activities: Scouting or the Scout Movement is a movement that aims to support young people in their physical, mental and spiritual development, that they may play constructive roles in society, with a strong focus on the outdoors and survival skills

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, Recreation
- **Who:** Children/young People, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** HITHER GREEN AND DISTRICT
- Lewisham

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£45,602	£35,381	-	-
2024-03-31	£42,119	£44,237	-	-
2023-03-31	£42,790	£39,167	-	-
2022-03-31	£29,696	£26,503	-	-
2021-03-31	£33,440	£14,302	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Greg Noonan	Chair	2020-09-28
Alasdair Gray		2022-11-13
Esther Nicoli		2022-06-25
Gavin FORSDYKE		2013-12-10
Isabel Gainey		2017-04-01
Janet Gainey		2015-04-01
Jon Forsdyke		2005-03-01
Stephen Nicoli		2020-09-28

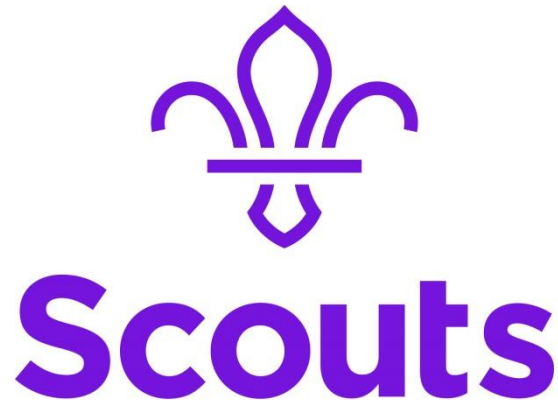
4th Lewisham (1st Hither Green) Scout Group

England & Wales - Charity number 303778

Accounts

4th Lewisham (1st Hither Green) Scout Group

Charity Number: 303778, Scout Registration Number: 649



Annual Report, Governance and Accounts

1st April 2024 – 31st March 2025

Reference and Administration Details

Charity name: **4th Lewisham (1st Hither Green) Scout Group**

Charity Registration Number: **303778**

Scout Registration Number: **649**

Charity's principal address: Ted Ray Scout Hall, 123-127 Springbank Road, Hither Green, London SE13 6SS

Board of Trustees

Mr Greg Noonan	Chairperson
Mrs Esther Nicoli	Secretary
Mr Stephen Nicoli	Treasurer
Miss Isabel Gaaney	Group Scout Leader
Mrs Janet Gaaney	Hall bookings / Assistant Beaver Scout Leader
Mr Jon Forsdyke	Deputy Group Scout Leader / Assistant Cub Scout Leader
Mr Gavin Forsdyke	Explorer Scout Leader (Discovery ESU)
Mrs Claire Ruiz	Squirrel Scout leader
Mrs Michelle Forsdyke	Cub Scout Leader
Mr Alasdair Gray	Scout Leader

Secretary's Report

Building

This year we successfully installed acoustic panels in the hall, which have significantly improved noise levels during meetings and hire sessions. The Trustees would like to express their sincere thanks to Rachael Winsor, who sourced the panels and secured them as a donation to the Group, and to James Winsor, who installed them voluntarily, donating his company's time for the benefit of the Scout Group.

We improved our yard area having a wooden fence built onto the existing palisade fencing along with wooden gates, providing more privacy whilst using it for activities, whilst also improving how the area looks.

Following a recent fire risk assessment, new fire extinguishers were installed throughout the building to ensure continued safety and compliance.

Hall Hire

We continue to maintain several regular hirers including KN Pilates, Tai Chi, and Ark of God. In September 2024, we also welcomed a new regular hirer, Tiny Tiggs Pre-School, which now

operates from the hall during weekday hours. Their presence adds to the vibrancy of the building and helps support our regular income stream.

Squirrel Scout Drey

This past year has been filled with numerous activities and events that have engaged our young members in meaningful and enjoyable ways. The 4th Lewisham (1st Hither Green) Junior Parkrun Takeover was a highlight, enabling our young people to showcase their commitment towards fitness and community involvement. Following that, we held our much-anticipated Summer Family Festival Camp at Wilberforce Scout Campsite, which allowed families to bond and participate in various outdoor activities together. Paddleboarding at Beckenham Place Park was another memorable experience that introduced our members to this fun water sport, while the visit to Lewisham Fire Station offered valuable insights into community services. Our Bonfire and Firework Night brought everyone together for a delightful evening, rounded off by the festive Snow White pantomime at the Churchill Theatre, which undoubtedly created lasting memories.

Over the year, we held regular meetings that covered a variety of topics and activities. From exciting practical sessions like circus skills workshop, den building, making pom poms, space helmets, rockets, and slime making to educational sessions on litter picking and seed bombs, we have aimed to provide a balanced experience for all. Our meetings at the Fire Station and discussions about food topics such as the rainbow food chart promoted awareness and engagement amongst the group. The vibrant discussions around treasure maps and house design fostered creativity while the repeated sessions of paddleboarding and Family Camp encouraged teamwork and cooperation. In January the Squirrels began working on a new badge 'You Shape' award. They worked together as a team to suggest and plan ideas for the sessions for throughout the year. The badge helps promote confidence, leadership and service. 4 children received this badge before they moved on to Beavers. Other members are continuing to work towards their requirements throughout this next year.

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all our leaders for their dedication throughout the past year, especially to Claire Ruiz, our section lead volunteer. Her unwavering commitment and effort in establishing our newest section has been instrumental, and it has certainly borne fruit by fostering a sense of achievement among our young people.

As we look forward to the coming year, we are excited about gradually increasing our number of young people and participating in more fun and engaging activities. We anticipate having another Family Camp in 2025, alongside other varied events that will keep our members active and inspired.

On a bittersweet note, we bid farewell to Sarah Hamilton, one of our Drey founders, as she steps down from her role due to other commitments. She has played a significant role in shaping our group, and her contributions will be greatly missed. We encourage anyone interested in supporting Claire and the group to consider volunteering as a leader.

Finally, I would like to thank all the children for their enthusiasm and energy that make our activities enjoyable, as well as the parents for their continued support. Your involvement is crucial in this journey, helping us create a nurturing environment where our young people can thrive. We

always look forward to welcoming new faces to join our scouting family. Here's to another productive year!

Beaver Scout Colony

This year has seen our Beaver group engage in a wide array of activities and events that have truly showcased the spirit of Scouting. Among the noteworthy achievements, we are pleased to highlight that several Chief Scout Silver awards were earned by our members. This is a fantastic Indicator of their commitment and effort throughout the year.

The Beavers embarked on several exciting events, each offering unique experiences. The Greenwich Observatory Day Out and Sleepover provided the youngsters the opportunity to learn and explore in a remarkable setting. The Summer Family Festival Camp was another highlight, creating lasting memories, while the paddleboarding event added an adventurous twist. Community engagement was also very much a part of our year, notably through participation in the Junior Park Run and support for the Lewisham Foodbank, demonstrating the Beaver values of service and teamwork. Additionally, events like the Lewisham Fire Station visit, the Bonfire and Firework Night, and the Snow White Pantomime contributed to a truly diverse programming calendar that the children thoroughly enjoyed.

Throughout the year, our weekly meetings were filled with engaging activities that promoted creativity and learning. From sewing butterflies and making paper puppets to musical instrument making and an impressive performance, the Beavers have showcased their growing skills and talents. Craft sessions, such as cactus making and Halloween biscuit decorating, were not only fun but also fostered a sense of mastery, while sports events like the Beavers versus Cubs Sports Day added a competitive edge and encouraged teamwork and sportsmanship.

We would especially like to express our gratitude to Isabel and Janet for their ongoing dedication and hard work. Their efforts, supported by Nick and Anoushka, have been invaluable in guiding our Beavers through a busy year, ensuring each meeting and event ran smoothly and effectively.

Looking ahead, we are excited about the upcoming Family Camp in 2025 and the opportunity for horse riding, both of which promise to be enriching experiences for our members as they continue their Scouting journey.

As we conclude this report, we acknowledge all the young Beavers for their enthusiasm and spirit, which certainly made the year enjoyable for everyone involved. We would also like to thank the parents for their unwavering support along with the other volunteers who contribute their time and effort behind the scenes. Their involvement is crucial for the smooth running of our group, and we look forward to another year of adventure and growth in the scouting community.

Cub Scout Pack

This past year has been very active for our Cubs group, with a range of wonderful events and meetings that have contributed positively to the development and enjoyment of our young members. We participated in numerous activities that included a Junior Parkrun takeover, where Cubs engaged enthusiastically with the community. Our horse riding and paddleboarding outings were memorable moments for everyone involved, and our visit to Lewisham Fire Station provided invaluable learning experiences about safety and teamwork.

One particularly exciting adventure was our outdoor challenge camp, where Cubs learned to prepare fish, culminating in an enjoyable seafood meal that showcased their new skills. Throughout the year, we held a variety of meetings that provided fun and educational experiences. Our games, skills nights, and creative sessions, such as cupcake toppers and junk modelling, helped the Cubs develop both their creativity and practical skills. We had engaging activities like sailing and sign language sessions, along with preparations for camping and fire safety training, which equipped our members with essential life skills.

We were pleased that once again this year several members of our Cub pack achieved their Chief Scout Silver Award which is our highest award once completing all seven of their Challenge awards.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our devoted leaders, Michelle, Liz, Elle, and Jon, for their ongoing hard work in planning and executing an amazing programme that captures the interests and needs of the Cubs. Additionally, our young leaders, Seth and Elyse, have been instrumental in supporting the group, and they deserve special thanks for their contributions.

Looking ahead, we have several exciting activities lined up for the coming months. We will have a joint camp with the Scouts in June, offering an excellent opportunity for collaboration and teamwork. Following this, our Family Camp in July promises to be a delightful get-together, allowing families to participate in the various activities scheduled throughout the camp. Furthermore, there are more events in the pipeline that will continue to engage our Cubs and help them grow.

As we move forward, we would like to thank all the children for making this past year so enjoyable. Their enthusiasm and spirit bring joy to our meetings and activities. We also appreciate the parents for their ongoing support, without which we would not be able to run our group as effectively as we do. Thank you to all our volunteers who work behind the scenes, making everything possible. We look forward to another fantastic year of Cubs!

Scout Troop

This year has been full of growth, adventure, and achievement for our Scout section. We've averaged 21 Scouts over the year with some new joiners as well as movement up from Cubs and on to Explorers. A consistent leadership team of three adult volunteers has supported weekly meetings, with extra help from parents and Young Leaders when needed.

Badges and Achievements

Our Scouts have worked hard towards a wide range of activity and challenge badges. Notable highlights include:

- Outdoor Challenge Award progress through camps, hikes, and skills sessions
- Participation in the District Cooking Competition, Archery Competition and First LEGO League Robotics Tournament
- They had an evening Scuba diving session at the Glass mill Leisure centre/
- Team based and Creative activities including Breakdance workshop, Graffiti Art
- Several Scouts working toward their Chief Scout's Gold Award, our highest section achievement

Camps and Trips

Outdoor experiences have been a big part of our year:

- Outdoor Challenge Camp at Cudham Shaws, including fire lighting, backwoods cooking, and team challenges
- We took part in the Junior Park run takeover at Forster memorial park.
- Summer Camp at Cranham Scout Campsite in Gloucester. We spent a week camping in the Cotswolds visiting the 270 climbing park on their high ropes course. We went gorge walking and abseiled off a viaduct in South Wales. We went kayaking and paddleboarding for a day. We held a cooking competition and all the teams created some amazing meals.

We would like to express our thanks and gratitude to our adult volunteer team, Al, Carlos and Karl without whom none of these activities would be possible.

Looking Ahead

We continue to build confidence, skills, and friendships through adventure. As always, we're grateful for the support of parents and volunteers who help us offer a varied and engaging programme. Going forward, we aim to increase opportunities for weekend activities and badge progression with the help of our wider group and District support.

Discovery Explorer Scout Unit

This past year has been an exciting and productive time for the Discovery Explorer Scout Unit, with a diverse range of activities that have contributed to our members' personal development and teamwork. Notably, our Explorers participated in the Duke of Edinburgh Gold canoe expedition in Scotland alongside the South London Scouts' Top Awards team. There were also additional expeditions, including the Gold walking expedition in the Brecon Beacons and the Southern 50 Challenge, where members had the opportunity to meet the new Chief Scout, Dwayne Fields. Such experiences not only tested their skills but fostered lasting friendships and unforgettable memories.

Throughout the year, we engaged in regular meetings covering a variety of topics and activities. These included the Docklands Scout project, DofE navigation sessions, and meetings focused on urban navigation and climbing techniques. Special evenings, such as our pancake night and baseball night in Manor House Gardens, added an enjoyable touch to our regular schedule. The hugely popular Adventure Food Cook Off and Taste Test was a highlight, showcasing our members' culinary skills in a fun and friendly competition. Other notable meetings revolved around preparation for outdoor expeditions, ensuring that participants were well-equipped and ready for the challenges ahead.

In addition to the regular meetings, our explorers took part in numerous outdoor events. From practice weekends for the Gold Award to navigation training weekends, our Explorers were busy honing their skills. Highlights of the year included an archery competition during The Lewisham Arrow camp, a variety of water activities such as paddleboarding and canoeing, and exciting outings to places like the Reach Climbing Centre. Most recently, several members participated in the Gold Award ceremony and the DofE canoe assessments, marking significant milestones in their scouting journey.

We extend our utmost gratitude to our leaders Gavin, Mel, Lucyann and Josh for their dedicated efforts throughout the year. We would also like to welcome our newest team members, Al and Jon, who have already contributed greatly to our team dynamic. The unwavering support and guidance from all leaders have been instrumental in helping our Explorers achieve their goals.

Looking ahead to the coming year, we are eager to see even more Explorers completing their top awards and expeditions. We encourage all members to continue pushing their limits and embracing the spirit of adventure that scouting embodies.

Finally, a heartfelt thank you goes out to our Scouts, whose enthusiasm and energy bring joy to every meeting and event. We also extend our appreciation to the parents and volunteers who support the group, ensuring that our Explorers have the opportunities to learn and grow

in a safe and nurturing environment. Your involvement is invaluable to the success of our unit, and we look forward to another fantastic year of scouting ahead.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Group's governing documents are those of The Scouts UK. 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.

The 4th Lewisham (1st Hither Green) Scout Group delivers scouting for four sections of young people as follows:

- Squirrel Scout Drey (4 – 6 years)
- Beaver Scout Colony (6 - 8 years)
- Cub Scout Pack (8 - 10 years)
- Scout Troup (10 - 14 years)

We have a partnership agreement with the Discovery Explorer Scout Unit which is a Lewisham District Scout Council provision. This agreement is reviewed annually.

- Discovery Explorer Scout Unit (14-18 years)

The Group is managed by the Board of Trustees, the members of which are the Charity Trustees of the Scout Group. 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 Board of Trustees consists of 3 independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary together with the Group Scout Leader, Deputy Group Scout Leaders, section leaders and parent representation.

The Committee meets regularly and is responsible for:

- Ensuring that the Ted Ray Scout Hall is safe for all users
- Insuring people, property and equipment
- Managing Group finances and fundraising
- Planning and financing the maintenance and improvements to the Ted Ray Scout Hall
- Managing the commercial hire of the Ted Ray Scout Hall
- Paying utility bills for the Ted Ray Scout Hall
- Maintenance and storage of Group equipment
- Acting as data controller for records of members of the Scout Group

Supporting an active, attractive and balanced programme of activities by:

- Organising, funding and supporting Group activities as required
- Providing financial subsidies to members where appropriate
- Supporting recruitment and training of adult leaders and supporters
- Supporting the recruitment of young people

- Ensuring all activities are risked assessed and safety is a priority
- Appointing Group Administrators and Advisors other than those who are elected

Risk and Internal Control

The Trustees have identified the major risks to which they believe the Group is exposed and put mitigations in place as follows:

Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members: The Group, through the Annual Membership fees, contributes to the Scout Association's national accident insurance policy. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all Scouting activities. At all events and activities at least one leader must hold a valid First Response certificate. First Aid kits are provided.

Reduction or loss of leaders: The Group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer its activities. This is an ongoing challenge to ensure enough volunteers are available. The Group will continue to recruit adults and make use of flexible volunteering from those who have limited time available.

Reduction or loss of members: The Group provides activities for all young people aged 6 to 14. The Group believes that an active, attractive and balanced programme of activities will continue to attract young people to scouting. Our three sections are currently at capacity for the size of our hall.

Damage to the Ted Ray Scout Hall: The Group has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss. If the Ted Ray Scout Hall was unusable, the Group could arrange to temporary use a local church hall, however we would suffer a significant loss of income.

Reduced income: The Group has a reserve fund policy sufficient to pay expenses for the Ted Ray Scout Hall and to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Group could also limit or suspend the provision of subsidies and investment expenditure. The Group could also apply for grants or undertake more fundraising activities.

Financial Controls: The Group has in place financial controls designed to provide reasonable assurance against financial mismanagement or loss. These include having a limited number of Trustees who can access our financial reserves; two signatures required to authorise bank payments; separate access to smaller operation funds; processes for continuous accounting including checks against bank statements; and a comprehensive insurance policy to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

Objectives and Activities

The Purpose of Scouting

Our purpose is to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

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; and
- make and live by their Promise.

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.

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objectives

The 4th Lewisham (Hither Green) Scout Group will deliver scouting to children and young people in line with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of the Scouts UK.

The Scout Group will provide an attractive and balanced programme of activities, events and experiences for children including weekly meetings; a range of activities outside the Ted Ray Scout Hall including outdoor activities; and the opportunity to attend nights' away experiences each year.

The Scout Group will ensure the operation of each section is overseen by an adult lead volunteer. The lead volunteer will also ensure that the Scouts UKs recommended minimum ratio for adults to children is adhered to.

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives, and in planning future activities.

Future Plans

The Trustees will continue to improve our facilities. We will continue to look at ways to reduce our energy usage and costs.

We will look to increase the number of our Scouting members achieving their top Chief Scout Awards. We will also increase our leader training compliance to ensure all adult volunteers are fully competent and equipped to run a range of activities.

We are continuing to support and work in partnership with the Discovery Explorer Scout Unit.

We will provide our Scouting sections with the modern equipment they need to provide a balanced programme.

The most important task for the future is to recruit and train adult volunteers for all sections. The trustees would welcome offers of help or ideas about how to recruit leaders.

Financial Review

The Group's income and expenditure are divided into two parts – Scouting activities and the hire and maintenance of the Ted Ray Scout Hall. It is the Group's policy that surpluses from the hire and maintenance of the Ted Ray Scout Hall may be used to fund or subsidise Scout activities and to invest in upgrading scouting equipment.

Scout Activities Financial Review

We are registered with HMRC for Gift Aid on members' subscriptions and were able to make a claim resulting in a receipt of £1,698.00 including interest.

The Group should have received a volunteer hour grant from Bloomberg, and we thank our Chairperson, Greg Noonan. However, these funds, which are paid via Scouts UK, was delayed moving through new I.T. systems and are not included in this year's accounts. Despite this, Scouting activities reported only a small deficit of £117.28 compared to a £4,099.29 deficit in 2023/24.

Ted Ray Scout Hall Financial Review

The hire of the Ted Ray Scout Hall to regular hirers provides a stable income which is used to pay for maintenance and improvements to the hall, as well as to subsidise scouting activities.

The introduction of a preschool group as a new regular hirer in September 2024 led to a substantial increase in income, reaching £19,184.50 in total, up from £10,060.50 in 2023/24.

We also receive a small amount of income for our Feed in Tariff on electricity produced by our solar panel array. This also reduced our utility expenditure.

The hall generated a total surplus of £10,338.36 in the year compared to a surplus of £1,980.45 in 2023/24.

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.
- pay expenses related to the Ted Ray Scout Hall including the payment of utility bills and insurance and the funding of maintenance; and
- fund repairs or improvements to the hall or garage.

The Trustees consider the Group should hold a minimum of £10,000. As of 31st March 2025, the Group held total funds of £45,220.10

Investment Policy

The Group has adopted a low-risk strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in mainstream banks.

Statements of Accounts 1st April 2024 – 31st March 2025

Financial Year 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025 and Comparison with Previous Financial Year

Scout Group		
<u>Income</u>	2024/2025	2023/2024
Scouting activities	£23,270.50	£24,602.82
Gift aid rebate	£1,698.00	£1,596.05
Grants received	£0.00	£5,532.00
Interest received	£102.49	£0.00
Total Scout Group Income	£25,070.99	£31,730.87
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Scouting activities	£19,811.90	£28,059.12
Group equipment	£735.33	£2,084.52
Office and admin	£760.04	£878.52
Membership and subscription	£3,804.00	£4,598.00
Leader training	£77.00	£210.00
Total Scout Group Expenditure	£25,188.27	£35,830.16
Scout Group Surplus / (Deficit)	-£117.28	-£4,099.29
Ted Ray Scout Hall		
<u>Income</u>	2024/2025	2023/2024
Hall hire	£19,184.50	£10,060.50
Donations and solar income	£346.55	£327.13
Deposits received	£1,000.00	£0.00
Misc other	£0.00	£0.00
Total Ted Ray Scout Hall Income	£20,531.05	£10,387.63
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Deposits returned	£350.00	£100.00
Hall Maintenance and building projects	£2,578.97	-£150.00
Utilities and overheads	£6,932.49	£8,308.60
Hall equipment	£331.23	£148.58
Total Ted Ray Scout Hall Expenditure	£10,192.69	£8,407.18
Ted Ray Scout Hall Surplus / (Deficit)	£10,338.36	£1,980.45
Overall Surplus / (Deficit)	£10,221.08	-£2,118.84

Statements of Accounts - Payments and Receipts
1st April 2024 – 31st March 2025

	Balance B/F 1 April 2024	Income	Expenditure	Balance C/F 31 March 2025
Totals	£34,999.02	£45,602.04	£35,380.96	£45,220.10

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31 MARCH 2025

ASSETS

Cash funds

Bank accounts	£45,148.10
Cash with Go Cardless	£72.00

Total cash funds

£45,220.10

Assets retained for the Charity's own use

Buildings (professional valuation)	£500,000.00
Equipment (at cost)	£6,483.77

Total assets retained for the Charity's own use

£506,483.77

LIABILITIES

Liabilities

£0.00

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved Annual Report, Governance and Accounts
1st April 2024 – 31st March 2025

Signed on behalf of the charity's board of trustees.

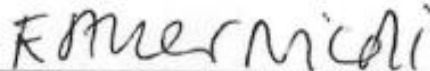
Chairperson – Mr Greg Noonan:



Date:

28 / 06 / 2025

Secretary – Mrs Esther Nicoli:



Date:

28-06-25



Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

Charity Name 4th Lewisham South (1st Hither Green) Scout Group

On accounts for the year ended

2025

Charity no (if any)

303778

Set out on pages

/ (remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD / MM / YYYY.

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 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 (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
• the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

[Signature]

Date:

26th June 2025

Name:

STEPHEN BARCLAY

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

Chartered Global Management Accountant (CGMA)

Address:

95 BRIGHTSIDE ROAD
LONDON, SE13 6EP

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

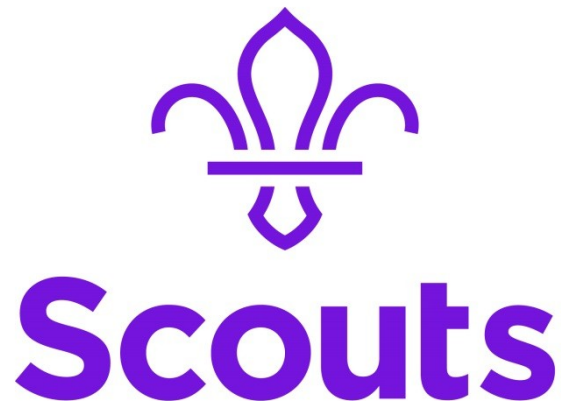
4th Lewisham (1st Hither Green) Scout Group

England & Wales - Charity number 303778

Accounts

4th Lewisham (1st Hither Green) Scout Group

Charity Number: 303778, Scout Registration Number: 649



Annual Report, Governance and Accounts

1st April 2023 – 31st March 2024

Reference and Administration Details

Charity name: **4th Lewisham (1st Hither Green) Scout Group**

Charity Registration Number: **303778**

Scout Registration Number: **649**

Charity's principal address: Ted Ray Scout Hall, 123-127 Springbank Road, Hither Green, London SE13 6SS

Board of Trustees

Mr Greg Noonan	Chairperson
Mrs Esther Nicoli	Secretary
Mr Stephen Nicoli	Treasurer
Mrs Deidre Dowling	Parent Representative
Miss Isabel Gainey	Group Scout Leader
Mrs Janet Gainey	Hall bookings / Assistant Beaver Scout Leader
Mr Jon Forsdyke	Deputy Group Scout Leader / Assistant Cub Scout Leader
Mr Gavin Forsdyke	Explorer Scout Leader (Discovery ESU)
Mrs Claire Ruiz	Squirrel Scout Leader
Mrs Michelle Forsdyke	Cub Scout Leader
Mr Alasdair Gray	Scout Leader

Secretary's Report

Building

We have been looking at improving the hall acoustics and have had several companies carrying out surveys. We have been recommended to install acoustic panels to the ceiling which we are planning to do soon.

Hall Hire

We have regular hirers; KN Pilates, Tai Chi and Ark of God, which provide a regular income.

We are in discussion with a preschool, which is hoping to commence hire in September 2024.

We do not have occasional hirers as the Trustees decided, as running costs were covered, it was not necessary to have the added maintenance and administration. This is regularly reviewed.

Scout Sections

Squirrel Scout Drey

The Squirrel Scouts opened in September 2023, under the leadership of Claire Ruiz and Sarah Hamilton. It has been a huge success with an excellent programme and activities.

They built up the number of children gradually to give their new leaders time to learn their roles. They have a great programme with singing, crafts and games. They visited Clip and Climb, went to a firework night at Wilberforce campsite and the pantomime at Bromley Churchill Theatre. In the new year they visited the police station to see the horses, the fire station and celebrated Chinese New Year.

They have two young leaders, Georgia and Lola and several parent helpers.

Beaver Scout Colony

The Beaver Scouts are as lively as always entering the hall every Monday with enthusiasm. Our numbers have fluctuated with the availability of adult helpers, but are now running with a full colony of 18 with the help of Janet, Nick, Anoushka and Giulia. We have enjoyed Clip and Climb, a Beaver camp at Frylands Wood which tied in with the Fun Day, local litter picking, paddleboarding, a visit to the Apple Store to create their own emoji as well as our hall activities. We have also enjoyed taking part in joint activities such as an Easter Egg Hike and Hunt at Beckenham Place Park with the Squirrels, Wiggly Wild Show with Cubs, pantomime at the Churchill Theatre and the firework night at Wilberforce.

Over the past year we have worked towards the 6 challenge badges as well as the Builder activity badge (making a Coronation Chariot fit for the King), Creative activity badge (making sock worms and clay pencil holders to name a few), International activity badge (taking part in food tasting, flag bingo and learning about Beaver equivalents), Communicator activity badge (learning the phonetic alphabet, sending text messages, making phone calls and invisible ink!), as well as the Global Issues activity badge (working on endangered animals and Fairtrade).

In July 2023 we awarded Bronze Chief Scout Awards to Oscar, Orla, Johannes and Melody before they moved up to Cubs to continue their Scouting adventures. It's great to see all their efforts rewarded.

Cub Scout Pack

The Cub Scouts went on a weekend camp at Bears Wood Scout campsite, along with our Scouts. They did a hike to Frylands Wood, campfire, geocaching, and wide games. They went paddleboarding at Beckenham Place Park and indoor climbing at Sutcliffe Park. They built a bug hotel as part of their DIY activity badge and wind turbines for the Environmental Conservation activity badge.

Nathaniel and Isabel achieved their Chief Scout Silver award, which is an incredible achievement. We welcomed our new leaders, Liz and Elle to the pack which has been a great addition. We had help from two young leaders, William and Lillian which went towards their DofE Bronze award for volunteering.

Scout Troop

The Scouts have an active programme inside and outside of the regular meeting hall, building towards the Challenge Awards and providing opportunities for its youth members. We have been indoor climbing at The Reach, paddleboarding at Beckenham Place Park, enjoyed athletics and other sports and games at the local parks. We hosted a workshop with BAC Beatbox Academy and had a go at track cycling at Herne Hill Velodrome. We have developed skills, such as cooking, photography and electronics as well as core scouting skills of navigation and pioneering.

We have taken part in broader events such as the First LEGO League Robotics competition, District cooking competition and the Monopoly Run Live with 8,000 other members.

We offer regular residential experiences, for example Spring Camp at Bears Wood with the Cubs, Autumn Camp at Cudham Shaws, and a Winter Camp back at Bears Wood with 6th Lewisham South.

Going forwards we aim to continue to develop core scouting skills and values, offering an increasing range of activities for the Scouts to experience and broaden our interactions with other scout groups across Lewisham District and beyond.

Scout Group

We enjoyed a family camp at Wilberforce Scout Campsite at the end of June 2023. It was a great success as we recruited our two new Squirrel Scout volunteers which meant we could go ahead and open our new section in September 2023.

Our Scout troop and Discovery Explorer Scouts took part in an international adventure to the beautiful island of Malta in July 2023. They took part in lots of activities including zip lining off a cliff and over the sea, coasteering, abseiling and a trip around Valetta.

We enjoyed, as a Group, a Trustee led firework night at Wilberforce Scout campsite attended by many families as well as the customary panto visit to the Churchill Theatre.

We thank all our volunteers for making Scouting happen. Our Group continues to provide excellent activities and experiences for all our members. We're constantly evolving and our section numbers remain constant, running at full capacity. We have maintained a large waiting list for all sections, referring enquiries to nearby groups should a space be unlikely.

Board of Trustees

The Scout group Board of Trustees meet every 6 weeks and organise the overall management of the group, Scout sections and building. We thank all our Trustees for the time they commit to the group.

We thank Ruth Jessop, our bookkeeper and advisor to the Trustees.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Group's governing documents are those of The Scouts UK. 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.

The 4th Lewisham (1st Hither Green) Scout Group delivers scouting for four sections of young people as follows:

- Squirrel Scout Drey (4-6 years)
- Beaver Scout Colony (6-8 years)
- Cub Scout Pack (8-10 ½ years)
- Scout Troop (10 ½ - 14 year)

We have a partnership agreement with the Discovery Explorer Scout Unit, which is a Lewisham District Scout Council provision. This agreement is reviewed annually.

- Discovery Explorer Scout Unit (14-18 years)

The Group is managed by the Board of Trustees, the members of which are the Charity Trustees of the Scout Group. 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 Board of Trustees consists of 3 independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary together with the Group Scout Leader, Deputy Group Scout Leaders, Section Leaders and parent representation.

The trustees meet regularly and is responsible for:

- Ensuring that the Ted Ray Scout Hall is safe for all users
- Insuring people, property and equipment
- Managing Group finances and fundraising
- Planning and financing the maintenance and improvements to the Ted Ray Scout Hall
- Managing the commercial hire of the Ted Ray Scout Hall
- Paying utility bills for the Ted Ray Scout Hall
- Maintenance and storage of Group equipment
- Acting as data controller for records of members of the Scout Group

Supporting an active, attractive and balanced programme of activities by:

- Organising, funding and supporting Group activities as required
- Providing financial subsidies to members where appropriate

- Supporting recruitment and training of adult leaders and supporters
- Supporting the recruitment of young people
- Ensuring all activities are risk assessed with safety a priority
- Appointing Group Administrators and Advisors other than those who are elected

Risk and Internal Control

The Trustees have identified the major risks to which they believe the Group is exposed and put mitigations in place as follows:

Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members: The Group, through the Annual Membership fees, contributes to the Scout Association's national accident insurance policy. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all Scouting activities. At all events and activities at least one leader must hold a valid First Response certificate. First Aid kits are provided.

Reduction or loss of leaders: The Group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer its activities. This is an ongoing challenge to ensure enough volunteers are available. The Group will continue to recruit adults and make use of flexible volunteering from those who have limited time available.

Reduction or loss of members: The Group provides activities for all young people aged 4 to 14. The Group believes that an active, attractive and balanced programme of activities will continue to attract young people to scouting. Our four sections are currently at capacity for the size of our hall.

Damage to the Ted Ray Scout Hall: The Group has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss. If the Ted Ray Scout Hall was unusable, the Group could arrange to temporary use a local church hall, however we would suffer a significant loss of income.

Reduced income: The Group has a reserve fund policy sufficient to pay expenses for the Ted Ray Scout Hall and to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Group could also limit or suspend the provision of subsidies and investment expenditure. The Group could also apply for grants or undertake more fundraising activities.

Financial Controls: The Group has in place financial controls designed to provide reasonable assurance against financial mismanagement or loss. These include having a limited number of Trustees who can access our financial reserves; two signatures required to authorise bank payments; separate access to smaller operation funds; processes for continuous accounting including checks against bank statements; and a comprehensive insurance policy to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

Objectives and Activities

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.

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; and
- make and live by their Promise.

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.

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objectives

The 4th Lewisham (Hither Green) Scout Group will deliver scouting to children and young people in line with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of the Scouts UK.

The Scout Group will provide an attractive and balanced programme of activities, events and experiences for children. These include weekly meetings, a range of activities outside the Ted Ray Scout Hall, including outdoor activities, and the opportunity to attend nights' away experiences each year.

The Group has a partnership agreement with the Discovery Explorer Scout Unit.

The Scout Group will ensure the operation of each section is overseen by an adult. The leader will ensure that at least two adults are present at regular indoor meetings. The leader will also ensure that the Scouts UKs recommended minimum ratio for adults to children is adhered to. (Squirrel Scouts: 1 to 6 plus leader in charge (1 to 4 outside); Beaver Scouts: 1 to 6; Cub Scouts: 1 to 8; Scouts: 1 to 12).

The Scout Group Board of Trustees will work with the Group Scout Leader to manage the Scout Group by delivering effective governance to ensure scouting is delivered and developed.

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives, and in planning future activities.

Future Plans

The Trustees hope that improved facilities will enable us to further increase the number and value of regular bookings and therefore increase the Group's income. We will continue to look at ways to reduce our energy usage and costs.

We will look to increase the number of our Scouting members achieving their top Chief Scout Awards. We will also increase our leader training compliance to ensure all adults are fully competent and equipped to run a range of activities.

We are continuing to support and work in partnership with the Discovery Explorer Scout Unit.

The most important task for the future is to recruit and train adult volunteers for all sections. The Trustees would welcome offers of help or ideas about how to recruit leaders and helpers for all sections but especially for our new Squirrel Scout section.

Financial Review

The Group's income and expenditure are divided into two parts – Scouting activities and the hire and maintenance of the Ted Ray Scout Hall. It is the Group's policy that surpluses from the hire and maintenance of the Ted Ray Scout Hall may be used to fund or subsidise Scout activities and to invest in upgrading scouting equipment.

Scout Activities Financial Review

We are registered with HMRC for Gift Aid on members' subscriptions and were able to make a claim resulting in a receipt of £1,596.00 including interest.

The Group received a volunteer hour grant from Bloomberg of £4,072 for which we have to thank our Chairperson, Greg Noonan. We will use these funds toward scout group activities.

In December 2023 the Group purchased a used minibus to support camps and regular activities. The cost of the purchase, initial repairs and insurance is included within "Scouting Activities" and is the cause of the overall deficit this year.

Ted Ray Scout Hall Financial Review

Usually, the hire of the Ted Ray Scout Hall to regular hirers provides a stable income which is used to pay for maintenance and improvements to the hall, as well as to subsidise scouting activities. Regular hall hire is stable compared to last year and provided as an income of £10,060.50.

We also receive a small amount of income for our Feed in Tariff on electricity produced by our solar panels. This also reduced our utility expenditure.

A total of £1,620 was paid to M Forsdyke, who is a Trustee, for maintenance services related to the scout hall. ▽

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.
- pay expenses related to the Ted Ray Scout Hall including the payment of utility bills and insurance and the funding of maintenance; and
- fund repairs or improvements to the hall or garage.

The Trustees consider the Group should hold a minimum of £10,000. As of 31st March 2024 the Group held total funds of £34,999.02.

Investment Policy

The Group has adopted a low-risk strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in mainstream banks.

Statements of Accounts 1st April 2023 - 31st March 2024

Financial Year 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024 and Comparison with Previous Financial Year

Scout Group		
<u>Income</u>	2023/24	2022/23
Scouting activities	£24,602.82	£25,308.50
Gift aid rebate	£1,596.05	£1,989.12
Grants received	£5,532.00	£4,324.00
Total Scout Group Income	£31,730.87	£31,621.62
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Scouting activities	£28,059.12	£27,452.14
Group equipment	£2,084.52	£54.50
Office and admin	£878.52	£773.79
Membership and subscription	£4,598.00	£3,021.00
Leader training	£210.00	£46.00
Total Scout Group Expenditure	£35,830.16	£31,347.43
Scout Group Surplus / (Deficit)	(£4,099.29)	£274.19
Ted Ray Scout Hall		
<u>Income</u>	2023/24	2022/23
Hall hire	£10,060.50	£10,499.50
Donations and solar income	£327.13	£309.18
Deposits received	£0.00	£300.00
Misc other	£0.00	£60.00
Total Ted Ray Scout Hall Income	£10,387.63	£11,168.68
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Deposits returned	£100.00	£250.00
Hall Maintenance and building projects	(£150.00)	£960.21
Utilities and overheads	£8,308.60	£6,549.08
Hall equipment	£148.58	£59.87
Total Ted Ray Scout Hall Expenditure	£8,407.18	£7,819.16
Ted Ray Scout Hall Surplus / (Deficit)	£1,980.45	£3,349.52
Overall Surplus / (Deficit)	(£2,118.84)	£3,623.71

Statements of Accounts - Payments and Receipts

1st April 2023 - 31st March 2024

	Balance B/F 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	Balance C/F 31 March 2024
Totals	£37,117.86	£42,118.50	£44,237.34	£34,999.02

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31 MARCH 2024

ASSETS

Cash funds

Bank accounts	£34,999.02
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Total cash funds

£34,999.02

Assets retained for the Charity's own use

Buildings (professional valuation)	£500,000.00
Equipment (at cost)	£17,911.61

Total assets retained for the Charity's own use

£517,911.61

LIABILITIES

Liabilities

£0.00

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved Annual Report, Governance and Accounts
1st April 2023 – 31st March 2024

Signed on behalf of the charity's board of trustees.

Chairperson – Mr Greg Noonan:



Date: 22/06/24

Secretary – Mrs Esther Nicoli:



Date: 20/06/2024



Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

4TH LEWISHAM (1ST HITHER GREEN) SCOUT GROUP

On accounts for the year ended

MARCH 2024

Charity no (if any)

303778

Set out on pages

1-2

(Remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2024

As the charity's trustees, 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 (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Barclay

Date:

3rd January 2025

Name:

STEPHEN BARCLAY

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

CIMA ACMA/CGMA

Address:

95 BRIGHTSIDE ROAD, LONDON, SE13 6EP

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

N/A

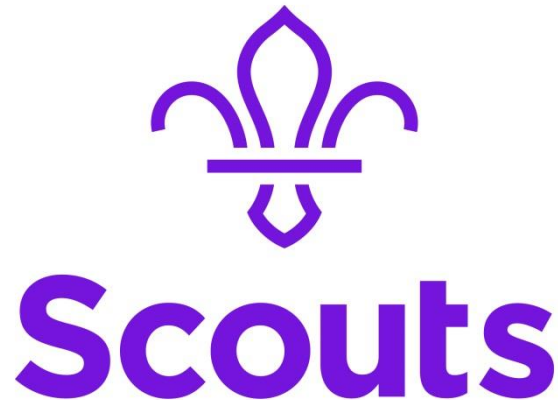
4th Lewisham (1st Hither Green) Scout Group

England & Wales - Charity number 303778

Accounts

4th Lewisham (1st Hither Green) Scout Group

Charity Number: 303778, Scout Registration Number: 649



Annual Report, Governance and Accounts

1st April 2022 – 31st March 2023

Reference and Administration Details

Charity name: **4th Lewisham (1st Hither Green) Scout Group**

Charity Registration Number: **303778**

Scout Registration Number: **649**

Charity's principal address: Ted Ray Scout Hall, 123-127 Springbank Road, Hither Green, London SE13 6SS

Board of Trustees

Mr Greg Noonan	Chairperson
Mrs Esther Nicoli	Secretary
Mr Stephen Nicoli	Treasurer
Mrs Deidre Dowling	Parent Representative
Miss Isabel Gainey	Group Scout Leader
Mrs Janet Gainey	Hall bookings / Assistant Beaver Scout Leader
Mr Jon Forsdyke	Deputy Group Scout Leader / Assistant Cub Scout Leader
Mr Gavin Forsdyke	Explorer Scout Leader (Discovery ESU)
Mrs Michelle Forsdyke	Cub Scout Leader
Mr Alasdair Gray	Scout Leader

Secretary's Report

Building

There has been little change with the hall this year after our large renovations in previous years. We researched whether to add photovoltaic cells, batteries and air source heat pumps however the costs were substantial, and it was decided by the board of trustees that these were unaffordable at the present time.

Hall Hire

We have several regular hirers, KN Pilates, Thai Chi, Ark of God, Dancing with Izzy and Amura which provides a regular income. We have no occasional hires as the Trustees decided as running costs were covered it was not necessary to have added maintenance and administration. This is regularly reviewed.

Scout Sections

The Scout group is constantly evolving and our section numbers remain strong. We have maintained a large waiting list especially for the Beaver and Cub Scout age groups.

Our Beaver section took part in many activities; visiting Mudchute Farm and having a fun walk back via parks, under the Thames Foot Tunnel before collapsing on a bus, paddle boarding, climbing at Sutcliffe Park, a visit to the Greenwich Planetarium as well as lots of exciting and interesting craft activities. They said goodbye to leader Nick and young leader Zoe; we wish them well for the future.

Our Cub Scouts went on a weekend camp at Frylands Wood doing orienteering, building shelters, campfire, and wide games. They also went paddle boarding, climbing at Sutcliffe Park and on a hike in Shoreham. Elsie B achieved her Chief Scout Silver award which is an incredible achievement. We said goodbye to helper Linda and wish her well.

The Scout section attended a week's summer camp at Braggers Wood Scout campsite in the New Forest, taking part in activities such as coasteering, bivouacking and fire lighting. They visited the birthplace of Scouting, Brownsea Island, where Robert Baden-Powell held the first experimental Scout camp in 1907. Whilst there they invested an additional team leader, Karl, and a number of new Scouts into the movement. We said goodbye to Scout leaders Dan and Ed. They worked hard in the section and we wish them well in their future endeavours. We welcomed new Scout leaders Al and Matt.

We enjoyed, as a Group, a Trustee led firework night at Frylands Wood attended by many families as well as the customary panto visit to the Churchill Theatre.

We thank all our volunteers for making Scouting happen. Our Group continues to provide excellent activities and experiences for all our members. Our section numbers remain constant, running at full capacity.

We are exploring the possibility of opening a young Squirrels section, 4- 6 years, but this would be once we are able to recruit additional volunteers for the roles.

Board of Trustees

The Scout group Board of Trustees meet every 6 weeks and organise the overall management of the group, Scout sections and building. We thank all our Trustees for the time they commit to the group.

We thank Ruth Jessop who is our bookkeeper and advisor to the Trustees.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Group's governing documents are those of The Scouts UK. 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.

The 4th Lewisham (1st Hither Green) Scout Group delivers scouting for three sections of young people as follows:

- Beaver Scout Colony (6-8 years)
- Cub Scout Pack (8-10 ½ years)
- Scout Troup (10 ½ - 14 years)

We have a partnership agreement with the Discovery Explorer Scout Unit which is a Lewisham District Scout Council provision. This agreement is reviewed annually.

- Discovery Explorer Scout Unit (14-18 years)

The Group is managed by the Board of Trustees, the members of which are the Charity Trustees of the Scout Group. 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 Board of Trustees consists of 3 independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary together with the Group Scout Leader, Deputy Group Scout Leaders, section leaders and parent representation.

The Committee meets regularly and is responsible for:

The management of the Group property by:

- Ensuring that the Ted Ray Scout Hall is safe for all users
- Insuring people, property and equipment
- Managing Group finances and fundraising
- Planning and financing the maintenance and improvements to the Ted Ray Scout Hall
- Managing the commercial hire of the Ted Ray Scout Hall
- Paying utility bills for the Ted Ray Scout Hall
- Maintenance and storage of Group equipment
- Acting as data controller for records of members of the Scout Group

Supporting an active, attractive and balanced programme of activities by:

- Organising, funding and supporting Group activities as required
- Providing financial subsidies to members where appropriate
- Supporting recruitment and training of adult leaders and supporters
- Supporting the recruitment of young people
- Ensuring all activities are risked assessed and safety is a priority
- Appointing Group Administrators and Advisors other than those who are elected

Risk and Internal Control

The Trustees have identified the major risks to which they believe the Group is exposed and put mitigations in place as follows:

Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members: The Group, through the Annual Membership fees, contributes to the Scout Association's national accident insurance policy. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all Scouting activities. At all events and activities at least one leader must hold a valid First Response certificate. First Aid kits are provided.

Reduction or loss of leaders: The Group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer its activities. This is an ongoing challenge to ensure enough volunteers are available. The Group will continue to recruit adults and make use of flexible volunteering from those who have limited time available.

Reduction or loss of members: The Group provides activities for all young people aged 6 to 14. The Group believes that an active, attractive and balanced programme of activities will continue to attract young people to scouting. Our three sections are currently at capacity for the size of our hall.

Damage to the Ted Ray Scout Hall: The Group has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss. If the Ted Ray Scout Hall was unusable, the Group could arrange to temporary use a local church hall, however we would suffer a significant loss of income.

Reduced income: The Group has a reserve fund policy sufficient to pay expenses for the Ted Ray Scout Hall and to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Group could also limit or suspend the provision of subsidies and investment expenditure. The Group could also apply for grants or undertake more fundraising activities.

Financial Controls: The Group has in place financial controls designed to provide reasonable assurance against financial mismanagement or loss. These include having a limited number of Trustees who can access our financial reserves; two signatures required to authorise bank payments; separate access to smaller operation funds; processes for continuous accounting including checks against bank statements; and a comprehensive insurance policy to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

Objectives and Activities

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.

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; and
- make and live by their Promise.

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.

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objectives

The 4thLewisham (Hither Green) Scout Group will deliver scouting to children and young people in line with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of the Scouts UK.

The Scout Group will provide an attractive and balanced programme of activities, events and experiences for children including weekly meetings; a range of activities outside the Ted Ray Scout Hall including outdoor activities; and the opportunity to attend nights' away experiences each year.

The Group has a partnership agreement with the Discovery Explorer Scout Unit.

The Scout Group will ensure the operation of each section is overseen by an adult. The leader will ensure that at least two adults are present at regular indoor meetings. The leader will also ensure that the Scouts UKs recommended minimum ratio for adults to children is adhered to. (Beaver Scouts: 1 to 6; Cub Scouts 1 to 8; Scouts 1 to 12).

The Scout Group Board of Trustees will work with the Group Scout Leader to manage the Scout Group by delivering effective governance to ensure scouting is delivered and developed.

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives, and in planning future activities.

Future Plans

The Trustees hope that improved facilities will enable us to further increase the number and value of regular bookings and therefore increase the Group's income. We will continue to look at ways to reduce our energy usage and costs.

We will look to increase the number of our Scouting members achieving their top Chief Scout Awards. We will also increase our leader training compliance to ensure all adults are fully competent and equipped to run a range of activities.

We are continuing to support and work in partnership with the Discovery Explorer Scout Unit.

We are looking at the new Squirrel Scout section (4 – 6 years), reading guidance, policies and advice on how the new younger section is managed and whether we can recruit adult volunteers to run the section, plan a time slot that suits the age group and consider opening a new section in late 2023.

The most important task for the future is to recruit and train adult volunteers for all sections. The trustees would welcome offers of help or ideas about how to recruit leaders and helpers for all sections but especially for our new Squirrel Scout section.

Financial Review

The Group's income and expenditure are divided into two parts – Scouting activities and the hire and maintenance of the Ted Ray Scout Hall. It is the Group's policy that surpluses from the hire and maintenance of the Ted Ray Scout Hall may be used to fund or subsidise Scout activities and to invest in upgrading scouting equipment.

Scout Activities Financial Review

We are registered with HMRC for Gift Aid on members' subscriptions. After resolving an error on the HMRC system due to a change in our banking details we have been able to claim 2 years' worth of Gift Aid resulting in a receipt of £1,989 including interest.

The Group received a volunteer hour grant from Bloomberg of £4,024 for which we have to thank our Chairperson, Greg Noonan. We will use these funds toward Scout group activities.

Scout Hall Financial Review

Usually, the hire of the Ted Ray Scout Hall to regular hirers provides a stable income which is used to pay for maintenance and improvements to the hall, as well as to subsidise scouting activities. Regular hall hire has increased compared to last year and provided us an income of £10,499.50. However, looking forward to 2023/2024, we anticipate that any surpluses the hall generates will be restricted by high energy costs in the coming year.

We also receive a small amount of income for our Feed in Tariff on electricity produced by our solar panel array. This also reduced our utility expenditure.

A total of £1,620 was paid to M Forsdyke, who is a Trustee, for maintenance services related to the scout hall.

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;
- pay expenses related to the Ted Ray Scout Hall including the payment of utility bills and insurance and the funding of maintenance; and
- fund repairs or improvements to the hall or garage.

The Trustees consider the Group should hold a minimum of £10,000. As at 31st March 2023 the Group held total funds of £37,117.86.

Investment Policy

The Group has adopted a low-risk strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in mainstream banks.

Statements of Accounts 1st April 2022 – 31st March 2023

Financial Year 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023 and Comparison with Previous Financial Year

Scout Group		
<u>Income</u>	2022/23	2022/21
Scout group sections	£7,604.50	£10,386.00
Group activities	£17,704.00	£1,875.00
Gift aid rebate	£1,989.12	£0.00
Grants received	£4,324.00	£1,957.00
Total Scout Group Income	£31,621.62	£14,218.00
Expenditure		
Scout group sections	£2,225.50	£8,010.50
Group activities	£25,226.64	£2,425.48
Group equipment	£54.50	£0.00
Office and admin	£773.79	£514.61
Membership and subscription	£3,021.00	£3,106.50
Leader training	£46.00	£15.10
Total Scout Group Expenditure	£31,347.43	£14,072.19
Scout Group Surplus / (Deficit)	£274.19	£145.81
Ted Ray Scout Hall		
<u>Income</u>	2022/23	2022/21
Hall hire	£10,499.50	£5,320.28
Donations and solar income	£309.18	£264.06
Deposits received	£300.00	£50.00
Grants received	£0.00	£9,593.74
Misc other	£60.00	£250.00
Total Ted Ray Scout Hall Income	£11,168.68	£15,478.08
Expenditure		
Deposits returned	£250.00	£40.00
Hall Maintenance and building projects	£960.21	£7,019.44
Utilities and overheads	£6,549.08	£5,369.28
Hall equipment	£59.87	£2.50
Total Ted Ray Scout Hall Expenditure	£7,819.16	£12,431.22
Ted Ray Scout Hall Surplus / (Deficit)	£3,349.52	£3,046.86

Overall Surplus / (Deficit)	£3,623.71	£3,192.67

Statements of Accounts - Payments and Receipts				
1st April 2022 – 31st March 2023				
	Balance B/F 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	Balance C/F 31 March 2023
Totals	£33,494.15	£42,790.30	£39,166.59	£37,117.86

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31 MARCH 2023		
ASSETS		
Cash funds		
	Bank accounts	£37,117.86
Total cash funds		£37,117.86
Assets retained for the Charity's own use		
	Buildings (professional valuation)	£500,000.00
	Equipment (at cost)	£15,628.51
Total assets retained for the Charity's own use		£515,628.51
LIABILITIES		
Liabilities		£0.00

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Chairperson – Mr Greg Noonan:  Date: 14/1/2024

Secretary – Mrs Esther Nicoli: Esther Nicoli Date: 14/01/2024



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

Charity Name
4th Lewisham (1st Hither Green) Scout Group

On accounts for the year ended

31 March 2023
Charity no (if any) 303778

Set out on pages

10-12

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2023.

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 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 (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

22/01/2024

Name:

Jenny Couper

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

Diploma in Charity Accounting (ICAEW)

Address:

79 Empress Drive
Chislehurst
BR7 5BQ

Section B**Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

|

4th Lewisham (1st Hither Green) Scout Group

England & Wales - Charity number 303778

Accounts

4th Lewisham (1st Hither Green) Scout Group

Charity Number: 303778, Scout Registration Number: 649



Annual Report, Governance and Accounts

1st April 2021 – 31st March 2022

Reference and Administration Details

Charity name: **4th Lewisham (1st Hither Green) Scout Group**

Charity Registration Number: **303778**

Scout Registration Number: **649**

Charity's principal address: Ted Ray Scout Hall, 123-127 Springbank Road, Hither Green, London SE13 6SS

Board of Trustees - Group Executive Committee

Mr Greg Noonan	Chairperson
Mr Stephen Nicoli	Treasurer
Miss Isabel Gainey	Group Scout Leader
Mrs Janet Gainey	Secretary (Acting) / Assistant Beaver Scout Leader
Mr Jon Forsdyke	Deputy Group Scout Leader / Assistant Cub Scout Leader
Mr Gavin Forsdyke	Deputy Group Scout Leader / Explorer Scout Leader (Discovery ESU)
Mrs Michelle Forsdyke	Cub Scout Leader
Mr Dan Bing	Scout Leader

Secretary's Report

Building

Through the pandemic our building was used very little, through the year the use has gradually increased to levels of that prior to the pandemic. The buildings renovation project is largely finished with small details around storage left and window coverings.

Hall Hire

We have welcomed back our regular hirers and are in discussions with a preschool about potential hire. This would enable us to move away from occasional hire which in the past has caused some issues and difficulty for our volunteers.

Scout Sections

We were guided by Scouts UK and the National Youth Agency on what we could do and what readiness level we were operating at and this continued to ease in April 2021.

We had to wait until June 2021 before restrictions allowed us to undertake nights away activities.

We returned to face to face meetings and have been able to undertake a wide variety of activities with all sections. We had to put measures in place to reduce the risks caused by Covid 19.

Our Beaver section took part in a large number of activities such as an outdoor day at Frylands Wood Scout campsite, paddle boarding, climbing at Sutcliffe park and a lot of exciting and interesting craft activities. They welcomed their new helpers Nick and Carolyn.

Our Cub Scouts went on a weekend camp at Frylands Wood doing orienteering, building shelters, campfire, wide games and bee keeping. They also went paddle boarding, climbing at Sutcliffe park and on a hike in Shoreham.

The Scout section attended a week's summer camp at Cranham campsite in the Cotswolds, taking part in activities such as, gorge walking, abseiling from a bridge, damming a river and canoeing the River Wye. They invested their new leader team, Dan, Ed, Adam and a number of new Scouts into the Scouting movement. The ceremonies took place at the source of the River Thames and at the Gates of Windsor Castle.

We thank all of our volunteers that made this happen we have been able to provide excellent activities and experiences for all of members.

Our section numbers have remained constant throughout the year running at full capacity.

We are exploring the possibility of opening a young Squirrels section, 4- 6 years, but this would be once we are able to recruit additional volunteers for the roles.

Group Executive

The group executive committee (Board of Trustees) meet every 6 weeks and organise the overall management of the group, Scout sections and building. We thank all of our trustees for the work they have put into the group through a difficult period coming through the Covid 19 pandemic.

We also have to thank Ruth Jessop who is an advisor to the committee and bookkeeper.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Group's governing documents are those of The Scouts UK. 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.

The 4th Lewisham (1st Hither Green) Scout Group delivers scouting for three sections of young people as follows:

- Beaver Scout Colony (6 to 8 years)
- Cub Scout Pack (8 to 10 ½ years)
- Scout Troup (10 ½ - 14 years)

We have a partnership agreement with the Discovery Explorer Scout Unit which is a Lewisham District Scout Council provision. This agreement is reviewed annually.

- Discovery Explorer Scout Unit (14 - 18 years)

The Group is managed by the Group Executive Committee (Board of Trustees), the members of which are the charity trustees of the Scout Group. 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 Committee consists of 3 independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary together with the Group Scout Leader, Deputy Group Scout Leaders, section leaders and parent representation. During this year, we have been unable to recruit a Group Secretary, so Janet Gainey became Acting Group Secretary.

The Committee meets regularly and is responsible for:

The management of the Group property by:

- Ensuring that the Ted Ray Scout Hall is safe for all users
- Insuring people, property and equipment
- Managing Group finances and fundraising
- Planning and financing the maintenance and improvements to the Ted Ray Scout Hall
- Managing the commercial hire of Ted Ray Scout Hall
- Paying utility bills for the Ted Ray Scout Hall
- Maintenance and storage of Group equipment
- Acting as data controller for records of members of the Scout Group

Supporting an active, attractive and balanced programme of activities, by:

- Organising, funding and supporting Group activities as required
- Providing financial subsidies to members where appropriate

- Supporting recruitment and training of adult leaders and supporters
- Supporting the recruitment of young people
- Ensuring all activities are risked assessed and safety is a priority
- Appointing Group Administrators and Advisors other than those who are elected

Risk and Internal Control

The Group Executive Committee has identified the major risks to which they believe the Group is exposed and put mitigations in place as follows:

Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members: The Group, through the Annual Membership fees, contributes to the Scout Association's national accident insurance policy. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all Scouting activities. At all events and activities at least one leader must hold a valid First Response certificate. First Aid kits are provided.

Reduction or loss of leaders: The Group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer its activities. This is currently a significant challenge, with many of our leaders and supporters undertaking two roles. The Group will continue to recruit adults and make use of flexible volunteering from those who have limited time available.

Reduction or loss of members: The Group provides activities for all young people aged 6 to 14. The Group believes that an active, attractive and balanced programme of activities will continue to attract young people to scouting. Our three sections are currently near capacity for the size of our hall.

Damage to the Ted Ray Scout Hall: The Group has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss. If the Ted Ray Scout Hall was unusable, the Group could arrange to meet temporarily at a local church hall of which there are several. However, we would suffer a significant loss of income.

Reduced income: The Group has a reserve fund policy, sufficient to pay expenses for the Ted Ray Scout Hall and to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Group could also limit or suspend the provision of subsidies and investment expenditure. The Group could also apply for grants or undertake more fundraising activities.

Financial Controls: The Group has in place systems of internal financial control that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against financial mismanagement or loss. These include: having a limited number of Trustees who can access our financial reserves; requiring two signatures to access bank accounts; separate access to smaller operation funds; processes for continuous accounting including checks against bank statements; and a comprehensive insurance policy to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

Objectives and Activities

The Purpose of Scouting

The Purpose of Scouting 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 the local, national and international communities.

Method

The method of achieving the Aim of the Association is by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training, based on the Scout Promise and Law and guided by adult leadership.

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.

The objectives of the Group are as a unit of the Scout Association

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objectives

The 4th Lewisham (Hither Green) Scout Group will deliver scouting to children and young people in line with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of the Scouts UK.

The Scout Group will provide an attractive and balanced programme of activities, events and experiences for children including weekly meetings; a range of activities outside the Ted Ray Scout Hall including outdoor activities; and the opportunity to attend nights' away experiences each year.

The Group has a partnership agreement with the Discovery Explorer Scout Unit.

The Scout Group will ensure the operation of each section is overseen by an adult. The leader will ensure that at least two adults are present at regular indoor meetings. The leader will also ensure that the Scouts UKs recommended minimum ratio for adults to children is adhered to for both outdoor activities held away from the usual meeting place and nights' away experiences. (Beaver Scouts: 1 to 6; Cub Scouts 1 to 8; Scouts 1 to 12).

The Scout Group Executive Committee will work with the Group Scout Leader to manage the Scout Group by delivering effective governance to ensure scouting is delivered and developed.

Future Plans

The Scout Group, although impacted by the Covid 19 crisis, we have been able to welcome back our regular hall hirers in a safe and controlled manner in line with Scouts UK and government guidance. The Trustees hope that improved facilities will enable us to further increase the number and value of regular bookings and therefore increase the Group's income.

We have resumed all Scout activities, also with guidance from the UK government and Scouts UK, to ensure our members take part in safe, well planned and risk assessed activities. Our number of youth members remain strong and we hold waiting list for all sections. We are liaising with other local Scout groups to try to facilitate all those on our waiting list.

We will look to increase the number of our members achieving their top Chief Scout Awards. We will also increase our leader training compliance to ensure all adults are fully competent and equipped to run a range of activities.

We are continuing to support and work in partnership with the Discovery Explorer Scout Unit.

We are looking at the new Squirrel Scout section (4 - 6 years), reading guidance, policies and advice on how the new younger section is managed and whether we can recruit adult volunteers to run the section, can find a time slot that suits the age group and consider opening a new section in the future.

The most important task for the future is to urgently recruit additional adult volunteers for all sections. The trustees would welcome offers of help or ideas about how to recruit leaders and helpers for all sections.

Financial Review

The Group's income and expenditure are divided into two parts - those related to the Scout activities and those related to the hire and maintenance of the Ted Ray Scout Hall. It is the Group's policy that surpluses from the hire and maintenance of the Ted Ray Scout Hall may be used to fund or subsidise Scout activities and to invest in upgrading scouting equipment.

Scout Activities Financial Review

We are registered with HMRC for Gift Aid on members' subscriptions however we have been delayed in claiming this due to an error on the HMRC system due to a change in our banking details. Once resolved we will collect 2 years' worth of claims.

The Group received a volunteer hour grant from Bloomberg of £3,657.00 for which we have to thank our Chairperson, Greg Noonan. We will use these funds toward Scout group activities.

Ted Ray Scout Hall Financial Review

Usually, the hire of the Ted Ray Scout Hall to other regular users provides a stable income which is used to pay for maintenance and improvements to the hall, as well as to subsidise scouting activities. Regular hall hire has slowly increased through the year and provided us an income of £5,320.28. This is still below pre pandemic levels of around £12,000, but we predict we will return to this level in 2022/2023.

We have completed the bulk of the Scout hall renovation project, painting and adding a new roof between hall and garage.

We also receive a small amount of income for our Feed in Tariff on electricity produced by or solar panel array. This also reduced our utility expenditure.

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;
- to pay expenses related to the Ted Ray Scout Hall including the payment of utility bills and insurance and the funding of maintenance; and
- to fund repairs or improvements to the hall or garage.

The Group Executive Committee considers that the Group should hold a minimum of £10,000. At 31 March 2022 the Group held total funds of £33,494.15.

Investment Policy

The Group has adopted a low-risk strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in mainstream banks.

Statements of Accounts 1st April 2021 - 31st March 2022

Financial Year 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022 and Comparison with Previous Financial Year

Scout Group		
<u>Income</u>	2021/22	2020/21
Scout group sections	£10,386.00	£3,565.76
Group activities	£1,875.00	£127.95
Group activities - Malta trip refunded	£0.00	-£15,877.85
Gift aid rebate	£0.00	£1,041.89
Grants received	£1,957.00	£5,838.00
Total Scout Group Income	£14,218.00	-£5,304.25
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Scout group sections	£8,010.50	£377.75
Group activities	£2,425.48	£29.74
Group activities - Malta trip refunded	£0.00	-£15,309.09
Group equipment	£0.00	£15.85
Office and admin	£514.61	£291.86
Membership and subscription	£3,106.50	£1,869.00
Leader training	£15.10	£0.00
Fundraising for others	£0.00	£60.27
Total Scout Group Expenditure	£14,072.19	-£12,664.62
Scout Group Surplus / (Deficit)	£145.81	£7,360.37
Ted Ray Scout Hall		
<u>Income</u>	2021/22	2020/21
Hall hire	£5,320.28	£1,027.00
Donations and solar income	£264.06	£294.57
Deposits received	£50.00	£0.00
Grants received	£9,593.74	£21,484.79
Misc other	£250.00	£59.80
Total Ted Ray Scout Hall Income	£15,478.08	£22,866.16
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Deposits returned	£40.00	£0.00
Hall Maintenance and building projects	£7,019.44	£5,472.90
Utilities and overheads	£5,369.28	£5,448.00
Hall equipment	£2.50	£168.33
Total Ted Ray Scout Hall Expenditure	£12,431.22	£11,089.23
Ted Ray Scout Hall Surplus / (Deficit)	£3,046.86	£11,776.93
Overall Surplus / (Deficit)	£3,192.67	£19,137.30

	Balance B/F 1 April 2021	Income	Expenditure	Balance C/F 31 March 2022
Totals	£30,301.48	£29,696.08	£26,503.41	£33,494.15

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31 MARCH 2022

ASSETS

Cash funds

	Bank accounts	£33,494.15
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Total cash funds

£33,494.15

Assets retained for the Charity's own use

	Buildings (professional valuation)	£500,000.00
	Equipment (at cost)	£15,574.01

Total assets retained for the Charity's own use

£515,574.01

LIABILITIES

Liabilities

£710.19



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

Mr LEWISHAM (1st HITHER GREEN) SCOUT GROUP

On accounts for the year ended

31 March 2021

Charity no (if any)

303778

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD / MM / YYYY.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, 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

[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

[Signature]

Date:

18/12/2021

Name:

LISA DUNCKLEY

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body

ACA

(if any):

Address:

Section B Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

4th Lewisham (1st Hither Green) Scout Group

England & Wales - Charity number 303778

Accounts

4th Lewisham (1st Hither Green) Scout Group

Charity Number: 303778, Scout Registration Number: 649



Annual Report, Governance and Accounts

1st April 2020 – 31st March 2021

Reference and Administration Details

Charity name: **4th Lewisham (1st Hither Green) Scout Group**

Charity Registration Number: **303778**

Scout Registration Number: **649**

Charity's principal address: Ted Ray Scout Hall, 123-127 Springbank Road, Hither Green, London SE13 6SS

Board of Trustees – Group Executive Committee

Mr Greg Noonan	Chairperson
Mr Stephen Nicoli	Treasurer
Miss Isabel Gainey	Group Scout Leader
Mrs Janet Gainey	Secretary (Acting) / Assistant Beaver Scout Leader
Mr Jon Forsdyke	Deputy Group Scout Leader / Assistant Cub Scout Leader
Mr Gavin Forsdyke	Deputy Group Scout Leader / Explorer Scout Leader (Discovery ESU)
Mrs Michelle Forsdyke	Cub Scout Leader
Mr Dan Bing	Scout Leader

Secretary's Report

Building

The building has been used very little through the pandemic and lockdown. The building renovation project has been completed, we now have a large kitchen, lobby area and new toilet cubicles. We have a new heating system (combi boiler and wireless thermostat) and new radiators. We are having surveys carried out, by Green Energy Together, to look at the feasibility of renewable energy and whether the hall can be improved further.

We have to tidy the yard area and land surrounding the rear of the building. There are cracks in the hall roof lights that require replacement.

We will be welcoming back the Scouting sections into the hall from September 2021.

Hall Hire

We have welcomed back our regular hirers and are in discussions with a number of after school clubs about potential hire. This would enable us to move away from occasional hire which in the past has caused some issues and difficulty for our volunteers.

Scout Sections

The Covid pandemic caused a lot of difficulties throughout our community. Our Scout leader team, Verity McGuire and Kyle O'Hanlon left the group at the start of the first lockdown, March 2020. It was sad to see them go; they had both come through the Scouts and, as leaders, did a great job.

We were guided by Scouts UK and the National Youth Agency on what we could do and what readiness level we were operating at. During the lockdowns we could not meet face to face, and when this eased, we could only meet outside, maintaining social distancing and requiring very detailed Covid risk assessments.

Our leader team decided to keep our activities going, keeping our members communicating and engaged. We sent out tasks via WhatsApp, the Beaver leader team delivered activity packs, and we continued a programme as far as practicably possible. Soon we started using Zoom for online meetings. We did cooking, scavenger hunts, virtual visits to a farm and ambulance station, met a police officer, and did lots of crafts and quizzes. The Cubs ran a virtual camp along with cooking and a campfire.

One Beaver Scout, Ethan, two Cub Scouts, Sam and Rufus and one Scout, Lola, did an incredible job completing their Chief Scout Bronze, Silver, Gold Awards, the highest Beaver, Cub and Scout awards respectively, during lockdown, we must congratulate them.

At the end of the first lockdown, July 2020, after completing an extremely detailed risk assessment, we were able to resume face to face Scout meetings, all be it with social distancing, hand hygiene and all outside. We took the Cubs and Scouts to make campfires and cook.

We were the first group within Lewisham Scout District, and one of the first in London, to organise ourselves and get back to face to face activities. We shared our detailed risk assessment and advice with other scout groups who requested it.

In September 2020 we welcomed Dan Bing to our Scout Troop leader team; he instantly got a programme of outdoor activities underway.

Autumn 2020 saw all sections doing lots of outdoor activities, including paddle boarding and laser tag, but eventually we had to return to Zoom meetings.

The Scout Group dealt with lockdown in a very positive manner. We have engaged with our members, had a new Scout leader team and are very pleased to have supported our community.

Group Executive

In September 2020 we welcomed two new members to our Scout Group executive team; Greg Noonan took on the role of Group Chairperson and Stephen Nicoli became our Treasurer.

Structure, Governance and Management

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

The 4th Lewisham (1st Hither Green) Scout Group delivers scouting for three sections of young people as follows:

- Beaver Scout Colony (6 to 8 years)
- Cub Scout Pack (8 to 10 ½ years)
- Scout Troup (10 ½ - 14 years)

We have a partnership agreement with the Discovery Explorer Scout Unit which is a Lewisham District Scout Council provision. This agreement is reviewed annually.

- Discovery Explorer Scout Unit (14 – 18 years)

The Group is managed by the Group Executive Committee (Board of Trustees), the members of which are the charity trustees of the Scout Group. 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 Committee consists of 3 independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary together with the Group Scout Leader, Deputy Group Scout Leaders, section leaders and parent representation. During this year, we have been unable to recruit a Group Secretary, so Janet Gainey became Acting Group Secretary. Jon Forsdyke undertook the role of Acting Group Treasurer from April 2020 to September 2020 until Stephen Nicoli filled this position.

The Committee meets every 2 months and is responsible for:

The management of the Group property by:

- Ensuring that the Ted Ray Scout Hall is safe for all users
- Insuring people, property and equipment
- Managing Group finances and fundraising
- Planning and financing the maintenance and improvements to the Ted Ray Scout Hall
- Managing the commercial hire of Ted Ray Scout Hall
- Paying utility bills for the Ted Ray Scout Hall
- Maintenance and storage of Group equipment
- Acting as data controller for records of members of the Scout Group

Supporting an active, attractive and balanced programme of activities, by:

- Organising, funding and supporting Group activities as required
- Providing financial subsidies to members where appropriate
- Supporting recruitment and training of adult leaders and supporters
- Supporting the recruitment of young people
- Ensuring all activities are risked assessed and safety is a priority
- Appointing Group Administrators and Advisors other than those who are elected

Risk and Internal Control

The Group Executive Committee has identified the major risks to which they believe the Group is exposed and put mitigations in place as follows:

Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members: The Group, through the Annual Membership fees, contributes to the Scout Association's national accident insurance policy. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all Scouting activities. At all events and activities at least one leader must hold a valid First Response certificate. First Aid kits are provided.

Reduction or loss of leaders: The Group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer its activities. This is currently a significant challenge, with many of our leaders and supporters undertaking two roles. The Group will continue to recruit adults and make use of flexible volunteering from those who have limited time available.

Reduction or loss of members: The Group provides activities for all young people aged 6 to 14. The Group believes that an active, attractive and balanced programme of activities will continue to attract young people to scouting. Our three sections are currently near capacity for the size of our hall.

Damage to the Ted Ray Scout Hall: The Group has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss. If the Ted Ray Scout Hall was unusable, the Group could arrange to meet temporarily at a local church hall of which there are several. However, we would suffer a significant loss of income.

Reduced income: The Group has a reserve fund policy, sufficient to pay expenses for the Ted Ray Scout Hall and to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Group could also limit or suspend the provision of subsidies and investment expenditure. The Group could also apply for grants or undertake more fundraising activities.

Financial Controls: The Group has in place systems of internal financial control that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against financial mismanagement or loss. These include: having a limited number of Trustees who can access our financial reserves; requiring two signatures to access bank accounts; separate access to smaller operation funds; processes for continuous accounting including checks against bank statements; and a comprehensive insurance policy to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

Covid 19: The Group over the last few years has been able to reduce its utility bill cost for the hall and has the reserves in place to support the Group should the hall be placed in lockdown. The Group will comply with all government guidance.

Objectives and Activities

The Purpose of Scouting

The Purpose of Scouting 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 the local, national and international communities.

Method

The method of achieving the Aim of the Association is by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training, based on the Scout Promise and Law and guided by adult leadership.

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.

The objectives of the Group are as a unit of the Scout Association

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objectives

The 4thLewisham (Hither Green) Scout Group will deliver scouting to children and young people in line with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of the Scout Association.

The Scout Group will provide an attractive and balanced programme of activities, events and experiences for children including: weekly meetings; a range of activities outside the Ted Ray Scout Hall including outdoor activities; and the opportunity to attend nights' away experiences each year.

The Group has a partnership agreement with the Discovery Explorer Scout Unit.

The Scout Group will ensure the operation of each section is overseen by an adult. The leader will ensure that at least two adults are present at regular indoor meetings. The leader will also ensure that the Scout Association's recommended minimum ratio for adults to children is adhered to for both outdoor activities held away from the usual meeting place and nights' away experiences. (Beaver Scouts: 1 to 6; Cub Scouts 1 to 8; Scouts 1 to 12).

The Scout Group Executive Committee will work with the Group Scout Leader to manage the Scout Group by delivering effective governance to ensure scouting is delivered and developed.

Future Plans

The Scout Group, although impacted by the Covid 19 crisis, we have been able to welcome back our regular hall hirers in a safe and controlled manner in line with Scouts UK and government guidance. The Trustees hope that improved facilities will enable us to further increase the number and value of regular bookings and therefore increase the Group's income.

We have resumed face to face Scout activities, also with guidance from the UK government and Scout UK, to ensure our members take part in safe, well planned and risk assessed activities. Our number of youth members remain strong and our waiting list for all sections has a large number of children. We are liaising with other local Scout groups to try to facilitate all those on our waiting list. We will look to increase the number of our members achieving their top Chief Scout Awards. We will also increase our leader training compliance to ensure all adults are fully competent and equipped to run a range of activities.

We are continuing to support and work in partnership with the Discovery Explorer Scout Unit.

We are looking at the new Squirrel Scout section (4 – 6 years), reading guidance, policies and advice on how the new younger section is managed and whether we can recruit adult volunteers to run the section, can find a time slot that suits the age group and consider opening a new section in the future.

The most important task for the future is to urgently recruit additional adult volunteers for all sections. The trustees would welcome offers of help or ideas about how to recruit leaders and helpers for all sections.

Financial Review

The Group's income and expenditure are divided into two parts – those related to the Scout activities and those related to the hire and maintenance of the Ted Ray Scout Hall. It is the Group's policy that surpluses from the hire and maintenance of the Ted Ray Scout Hall may be used to fund or subsidise Scout activities and to invest in upgrading scouting equipment.

Scout Activities Financial Review

Our regular source of income is through members' subscriptions, paid monthly. During 2020/21 the Exec Committee took the decision to suspend subscriptions from September 2020 until April 2021 because we were unable to provide a full Scouting programme due to Covid restrictions on meeting indoors. This impacted on our income, but the Group was eligible for a Scout Association Recovery Fund grant of £2,050 which made up some of the shortfall.

We are registered with HMRC for Gift Aid on members' subscriptions.

Naturally our income from additional activities was also reduced significantly during the year, as we were unable to provide camps and day trips and activities at the usual level.

The Group had planned a week-long trip to Malta for July 2020 which was cancelled due to Covid travel restrictions: fortunately, we received a full refund from the activity provider (except for insurance costs) and flight costs were recovered through a credit card section 75 claim and so were able to refund all our members in full for their payments towards the trip. This is accounted for as negative income of £15,887 and negative expenditure of £15,309 during the year.

The Group received a grant from Bloomberg for the second year in a row thanks to the efforts of one of our parents who can claim the grant in return for volunteering 50 hours.

Although our income has been significantly affected by Covid, our scouting expenditure was also reduced due to being unable to provide a full programme – this means that despite the impact of Covid, we were able to end the year with a surplus of £7,360 on Scout Activities.

Ted Ray Scout Hall Financial Review

Usually, the hire of the Ted Ray Scout Hall to other regular users provides a stable income which is used to pay for maintenance and improvements to the hall, as well as to subsidise scouting activities.

During 2020/21 this income fell to £1,027 (2019/20: £12,258) due to Covid restrictions around meeting indoors, and also to a certain extent users' wariness to return even when restrictions were lifted. Some, but not all, of our users have returned since the year end, providing a regular income through hall hire again.

The Group was fortunate to receive Covid support grants from Lewisham Council, without which the Group would have faced a very difficult financial position.

Our previous investment in solar panels continues to reduce our electricity bills and also provide a small income.

The hall improvement project was completed during the year, and our usual maintenance and overhead costs continued without much reduction. Even so, we finished the year with a surplus of £11,777 on the Ted Ray Hall.

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;
- to pay expenses related to the Ted Ray Scout Hall including the payment of utility bills and insurance and the funding of maintenance; and
- to fund repairs or improvements to the hall or garage.

The Group Executive Committee considers that the Group should hold a minimum of £10,000. At 31 March 2021 the Group held total funds of £30,301.

Investment Policy

The Group has adopted a low-risk strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in mainstream banks.

Statements of Accounts 1st April 2020 – 31st March 2021
Financial Year 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021 and Comparison with Previous Financial Year

Scout Group		
	2020/21	2019/20
Income		
Scout group sections	£ 3,565.76	£ 8,100.50
Group activities	£ 127.95	£ 19,688.55
Fundraising - Crystal Palace Triathlon	£ -	£ 600.00
Gift aid rebate	£ 1,041.89	£ 893.71
Fundraising for others	£ -	£ 170.27
Grants received	£ 5,838.00	£ 3,965.74
Total Scout Group Income	-£ 5,304.25	£ 33,418.77
Expenditure		
Scout group sections	£ 377.75	£ 3,701.23
Group activities	£ 29.74	£ 18,019.67
Group activities - Malta trip refunded	£ 568.76	
Group equipment	£ 15.85	£ 1,237.09
Office and admin	£ 291.86	£ 773.53
Membership and subscription	£ 1,869.00	£ 2,438.00
Fundraising for others	£ 60.27	£ 110.00
Total Scout Group Expenditure	-£12,664.62	£ 26,279.52
Scout Group Surplus / (Deficit)	£ 7,360.37	£ 7,139.25

Continued on next page

Ted Ray Scout Hall		
	2020/21	2019/20
Income		
Hall hire	£ 1,027.00	£ 12,257.50
Donations and solar income	£ 294.57	£ 251.27
Deposits received	£ -	£ 1,460.00
Grant for building project	£ -	£ 16,000.00
Grants received	£ 21,484.79	£ -
Misc other	£ 59.80	£ -
Total Ted Ray Scout Hall Income	£ 22,866.16	£ 29,968.77
Expenditure		
Hall hire	£ -	£ 300.00
Deposits returned	£ -	£ 1,400.00
Hall Maintenance and building projects	£ 5,472.90	£ 66,490.78
Utilities and overheads	£ 5,448.00	£ 5,707.01
Hall equipment	£ 168.33	£ 1,445.92
Total Ted Ray Scout Hall Expenditure	£ 11,089.23	£ 75,343.71
Ted Ray Scout Hall Surplus / (Deficit)	£ 11,776.93	£ -45,374.94
Overall Surplus / (Deficit)	£ 19,137.30	£ -38,235.69

Statements of Accounts - Payments and Receipts
1st April 2020 – 31st March 2021

	Balance b/f 1 April 2020	Income	Expenditure	Balance c/f 31 March 2021
Totals	£11,164.18	£33,439.76	-£14,302.46	£30,301.48

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AT 31 MARCH 2021**

ASSETS

Cash funds

	Bank accounts	£ 30,194.48
	Petty cash	£ 107.00

Total cash funds

£ 30,301.48

Assets retained for the Charity's own use

	Buildings (professional valuation)	£ 500,000.00
	Equipment (at cost)	£ 15,574.01

Total assets retained for the Charity's own use

£ 515,574.01

LIABILITIES

Liabilities

£ 1,657.13



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

Am LEWISHAM (1st HITHER GREEN) SCOUT GROUP

On accounts for the year ended

31 March 2021

Charity no (if any) 303778

Set out on pages

(Remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD/MM/YYYY.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, 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

[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed: [Signature]

Date: 18/12/2021

Name: LISA DUNCKLEY

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body

ACA

(if any):

Address:

Section B Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.