

# 26<sup>th</sup> Leicester (Blaby) Scout Group Annual Report 2025







# Scouts

26th Leicester (Blaby)





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# Chairman's Comments.

Welcome to the 2025 Annual Report for 26th Leicester (Blaby) Scout Group..

This year has been about growth and continuing the move of responsibilities across the 3 teams that comprise the Group:

- The Uniformed Sections – our reason for being
- The Operational Support Team – keeping the building and equipment in working order
- The Trustees – ensuring that we meet our Charity obligations

Recruitment continues across all 3 areas, and it has been great to see the Teams working together and moving things forward. My highlights from each area would be:

- Opening the new Squirrel section
- Work on the storage areas in the grounds at the back of the headquarters with scheduled “maintenance days”
- Installation of the new more efficient heating system

This year saw the departure of Betty Saunders – Akela (Cub Leader) and Trustee. Betty has been a stalwart of the Group for many years and we thank her for everything she has done for the Group and wish her well in retirement.

I need to say a huge thank you to everyone who volunteers with the Group – Leaders, Trustees, Operational Support Team members and those of you who help run the sections, events and assist with maintenance. We are all here for one thing – to enable the Young People in our care to be the best they can be. Without you the Group would not be as successful, and the young people would not have the fun they do. Thank you for all that you have done and for all that you do, this Group would not exist without you.

## Trustees Report

The trustees are a group of people from various walks of life – with varying Scouting experience from 0 to 40 years. We meet every 2 months and depending on the roles and actions that we take on carry out other work in between.

It is our responsibility to ensure that the Group operates within the Scouting and Charity Commission frameworks. Finances, Safeguarding and Health and Safety are at the centre of what we look at.

So what have we been up to this year?

We replaced the heaters in the main hall and meeting room. We have already seen a significant decrease in our electricity usage with a quicker than budgeted payback, and our hut users are commenting on the improved heating. Part of the cost of this has been grant-funded, but this wasn't received until after we closed our books.

We started the process to take ownership of all the land that we use (we currently own about half of it). This will be a lengthy process but will put us into a more secure position.

We have reviewed subscriptions and Hall Hire costs – and this year we have made the decision to increase our subs for the first time in 3 years. This will enable us to break even this year, although we are not replacing our reserves used over the last few year.

I need to thank Helen Playle, Betty Saunders, Jane Young and Mason Chapman all of whom are standing down as Trustees of the Group. They have all played a huge part in the Board of Trustees over the years. Thank you all for your time as Trustees.

**Neil Roberts**

Chair - Board of trustees



# Group Lead Volunteers Report.

Hello everyone,

As we gather for another Annual General Meeting, I want to take a moment to reflect on the past year—one full of both milestones and continued dedication to our Scouting values.

Firstly, I must extend heartfelt congratulations and thanks to Betty Saunders, who has retired after an extraordinary 40 years of service. Betty's unwavering commitment, leadership, and warmth have shaped the experience of generations of young people in our group. Her legacy will be deeply felt for years to come, and we owe her a debt of gratitude.

This year also saw the exciting launch of our new Squirrel section, welcoming our youngest members into Scouting. The enthusiasm and curiosity these young children bring is infectious, and it's been a joy to watch this section grow. My thanks to the volunteers who stepped forward to get this new section off the ground—you've done a fantastic job.

Looking ahead, we are seeing a growing demand for places in our Beaver section, and in order to meet this need, we are hoping to open a second Beaver colony. However, we can only make this happen if we are able to recruit more volunteers. If you or someone you know is interested in making a difference, even a small commitment can go a long way. Please spread the word—our young people need you.

Finally, I would like to close by thanking all of our incredible volunteers. Your time, energy, and dedication are what make this group thrive. Whether you're a section leader, helper, administrator, or occasional event volunteer—your efforts do not go unnoticed, and they are truly appreciated.

Thank you once again for your continued support, and here's to another successful year of Scouting together.

Yours in Scouting,

**Mark Chamberlain**  
Group Lead Volunteer

**Squirrels**

**BEAVERS**

**cubs**

**SCOUTS**

# Finance Report.

Financial Summary for the Year: 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025

## Income

### Donations, legacies and similar income

	2024/2025 £	2023/2024 £
Subscriptions	10,413	11,847
Less: Membership subscriptions paid on	-4,724	-4,412
Net membership subs retained	5,689	7,435
Donations	586	1,453
Other incom	1,410	-
Gift Aid	4,759	0
Other similar income camps	7,423	8,168

### Fundraising (gross)

	2024/2025 £	2023/2024 £
Other fundraising activities	1,722	525
Sub total	1,722	525

### Investment income

	2024/2025 £	2023/2024 £
Bank interest	30	49
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service	-	43
Property Rent income	10,574	11,232
Other investment income	-	-
Sub total	10,604	11,324

	<b>2024/2025</b>	<b>2023/2024</b>
<b>Total Gross Income:</b>	<b>£32,193</b>	<b>£28,905</b>



# Payments

## Charitable Payments

	2024/2025 £	2023/2024 £
Youth programme and activities, uniforms and kit	14,463	20,686
Training	-	-
Rent		
Water and Sewerage	192	230
Electricity	2,601	4,886
Insurance	1,833	1,599
Cleaning, Repairs and Renewals	4,293	7,316
Broadband	390	330
Other costs	49	-
Contribution to camp costs	-	-
Licences	733	377
AGM and trustee expenses	235	25
Minibus costs	3,050	1,976
Bank charges and Go-Cardless fees	751	819
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>28,590</b>	<b>38,244</b>

## Total Gross Expenditure

	2024/2025 £	2023/2024 £
Total Gross Expenditure	28,590	38,244
Asset and Investment purchase - New Heating System	7,800	
Total Payments	36,390	38,244
Net of receipts	-4,197	-9,339

# Cash Funds

**2024/2025**  
**£17,320**

**2023/2024**  
**£21,517**

# Squirrels

We opened our drey on the 16th September 2024 with 12 new squirrels and 4 new leaders. We are delighted that myself (Big Nut) Katie (Little Nut), Jenna (Butternut), Becci (Nutkin) and Arran (Walnut) have joined our team having experience of new leaders and those from other sections to support the new drey. We also had Sarah (Crunchy Nut) who was with us for a while. We have also had some amazing help from our young leaders, Kind Nut, Nutter and Peanut. They help keep the squirrels entertained and are very helpful in helping tidy up after our sessions.

We started of with

a number of fun activities to get to

know each squirrel and for

each leader to find their feet. At the end

of our first term it was the celebration of squirrels and scouting with all 12 squirrels and all new leaders being invested into the scouting community.

Within the 9 months that we have been open we have done a number of activities and given out quite a few badges! We have done all sorts of activities from toasting marshmallows on a fire, building blanket forts, visiting the library and going on a chippy walk. The squirrels all love to play a game of What's the time Mr. Wolf? And the biscuits are always a bonus!

From tasting new foods to lots of arts and crafts we have had an amazing time so far. We are aiming for the majority of our squirrels to gain their Chief Scout's Acorn award, which is the highest award that a squirrel can earn before they move to Beavers.

Some of the squirrels had their first adventure out with a trip to Twinlakes that was run by the city district team. We have another adventure planned in June at John's Lee woods, with Stuck in the Woods – Get Me Out of Here.





# BEAVERS

**What an amazing year we've had together in our Beaver Scout Colony! From fun-filled adventures to exciting challenges, we've grown, learned, and had an absolute blast.**

Our fun-packed programme has made for an incredibly productive year and has seen our Beavers earn, and be awarded, almost 400 badges, including 107 challenge badges and a total of 20 Beavers earning their Chief Scout's bronze award during this time. The leaders would like to express a huge congratulations to all of our children for working so hard and achieving so much! We hope you have enjoyed it as much as we have.



While we love traditional Scouting activities like camp craft, cooking, reading maps, and pioneering, our programme also includes a wide variety of experiences to help our Beavers better understand the world around them — both locally and globally. We've supported charities, carried out good deeds in the community, and explored global issues and environmental responsibility.



We've also enjoyed celebrating a range of festivals, learning about different cultures through fun and engaging activities. Highlights include rangoli art for Diwali, Chinese food tasting, a colour run for Holi, pancake making for Lent, and of course, our Christmas celebrations — crafts, a party, festive lights, and a pantomime at De Montfort Hall.

Family and community spirit have remained central to everything we do. Beavers have learned to care for themselves and others, and we've supported this with activities for National Inclusivity Week, Friendship Week, and the Disability Badge — all helping to build empathy and social awareness.

This term, we've focused on practical and outdoor skills, enjoying nature walks, scavenger hunts, gardening, and picnics. We've also had fantastic trips to Twinlakes Theme Park, the Abbey Park Miniature Railway, and the district-wide 'Stuck in the Woods' event — all great chances to connect with Beavers from across the region.

To wrap up this amazing year, it's clear that our Beaver Scouts have achieved so much, not just in terms of badges and awards, but in growing as compassionate, curious, and responsible young people. They have shown incredible enthusiasm, creativity, and teamwork throughout every activity, and we couldn't be prouder of the progress they've made.

Here's to another fantastic year of Scouting and wonderful memories made!



What an eventful year!

People have joined and left - we've invested cubs and leaders, and moved cubs onto Scouts - many of who earned their Chief Scout Silver award (the highest possible award in Cubs). We've earned badges, had nights away, been on trips, and introduced changes. There's been a lot of hard work and fun...

# cubs

The second half of 2024 saw us work on some of our safety badges, learn about wartime Scouting, dress up for Hallowe'en, and have some artistic craft evenings.

We held a sleepover at the woods in November, in the snow, cold and rain, but had a great time doing activities using the natural outdoor environment. We were thankful for bunk beds rather than tents.

Akela Betty retired at the end of term in December, after 44 years of leading the pack. We had a lovely family xmas games night so everyone was there for her farewell presentation.

Since then we've been working hard to recruit and build up a new leadership team.

We decided it was also the right time to make a few changes...

Merging the true values, history and meaning of scouting with the modern - we've adopted the use of BP's original Grand Howl to open our meetings, so it's quicker, and more inclusive and interactive.



We now  
also send out a monthly newsletter to parents to show them everything we've been up to.

Our programme is very much youth-shaped and based on the Cubs' ideas.

We aim to give not only activities, but provide amazing experiences.

This year, we had a trip to the Science Museum in London.

We had an Easter sleepover at the hut, where we played games and enjoyed a disco.

Back in February, we went to Swadlincote Snow Centre - and had a go at snowboarding and skiing.

We've worked towards entertainer, pioneer and scientist badges. We've been out on visits (we joined and learned how to use a library), and welcomed visitors (the beasts came! - snake/lizard/scorpion/tarantula).

We've done cooking - cubs love anything to do with food!

We've also focused on a lot of challenges to build up our teamwork skills.

At the time of writing we're only a few weeks away from our Summer Camp which will be at Oaks campsite, where we shall enjoy lots of the adventurous activities they offer.

We have also just launched our community project, and will be raising money for and awareness about homelessness. We've partnered with the charity Centrepont, and our SleepOut will be in September.

We have so many more exciting things already starting to be planned that we're looking forward to over the next year.





# SCOUTS

The Scouting year is coming to a close, and with that comes the high point of all our activities, Summer Camp! This year Scouts are going to Hallowtree Scout Activity Site near Ipswich, where we plan a varied and exciting programme. All the skills learned during the year come together to support the scouts during this experience.



Leading up to this the scouts have hiked, taken part in sleepovers, Wide Games, cooked following recipes and creatively, mapping, pioneering projects and honed their leadership skills. One of the favourite summer activities is Rafting, when the Scout's pioneering/knotting skills are put to the test building and paddling their craft round a course on Hollowell Sailing Club's water! This is challenging and usually ends up being a rather wet experience when the knots give way under the strain of a crew of energetic paddlers...



We have welcomed Cubs and other young people to Scouts during the year and have sadly seen Scouts move on to Explorers and other things when they reach age 14. It is so rewarding to watch them grow and develop as people, hopefully preparing them to deal with what Life puts in their path. We wish them well.

As the Scout Leadership Team, we would like to thank all the scouts for being themselves, parents for being supportive and the many leaders and helpers who have assisted us in providing the programme. We couldn't do it without you all!



**Shaun and Helen**

# Scout Hut Bookings

This year we had a marvellous new Heating & Aircon system installed and even-larger bins, but the excitement didn't stop there!

The Scout Group continued to earn extra funds by hiring out the main hall with fabulous garden and upstairs meeting room to a wide range of groups, families, societies, charities and small businesses. We sadly said goodbye to some longstanding bookers this year due to closure, illness and maternity leave, but we are so grateful that new local groups and families continue to get in contact with us. Here are some of the activities that happened here when we weren't Scouting in 2024/25!



31 birthday parties, meetings and one-off events

Dog and Puppy training sessions

Pilates and general fitness classes

Tai Chi sessions organised by Active Blaby

Heavy Vehicle driving exams

A New Year's Yoga-Gong session was held over midnight

Wedding Dance classes for couples

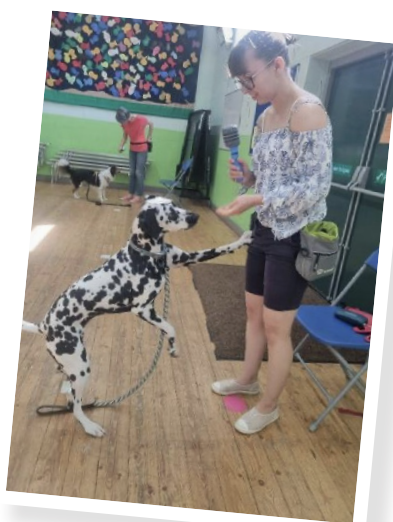
Swimming Club & Allotment committee meetings

Baby Sensory and Messy Play sessions

Counselling sessions

An Ultimate Frisbee team visited from Manchester

Tiny Talk held weekly Baby Signing classes

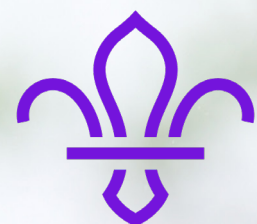


Our amazing bookers tell us we have a GREAT facility here and they appreciate how clean, tidy and well-kept it is. Many thanks to Jane, Cliff and all the team for keeping things ship-shape!

If you'd like to know more about booking the hut, for regular classes or a one-off special event, just visit our Website

[www.blabyscouts.org/hut-hire](http://www.blabyscouts.org/hut-hire) and fill out our Booking Form. Or contact our booking secretary, Liz on Tel: 0116 326 6903 Or email: [Bookings@blabyscouts.org](mailto:Bookings@blabyscouts.org)





**Scouts**  
26th Leicester (Blaby)







If you want to become involved in our amazing Scout Group please contact our Group Lead Volunteer ([mark.chamberlain@blabyscouts.org](mailto:mark.chamberlain@blabyscouts.org)) or ([mason.chapman@blabyscouts.org](mailto:mason.chapman@blabyscouts.org))





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# 26th Leicester (Blaby)Scout Group

## Receipts and Payments Account

Year start date

Year end date

For the year from	1-Apr-24	To	31-Mar-25
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### Receipts and payments

	2024/2025	2023/2024
	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>		
<b>Donations, legacies and similar income</b>		
Membership subscriptions	10,413	11,847
Less:Membership subscriptions paid on (National/County/Area/District)	4,724	4,412
Net membership subscriptions retained	5,689	7,435
Donations	586	1,453
Other income	1,410	
Gift Aid	4,759	0
Other similar income Camps	7,423	8,168
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>19,867</b>	<b>17,056</b>
<b>Grants</b>		
Maintenence grant		
Other grants	0	0
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Fundraising (gross)</b>		
Funday		
Kit Sales		
Minibus Income		
Other fundraising activities	1,722	525
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>1,722</b>	<b>525</b>
<b>Investment income</b>		
Bank interest	30	49
Building Society interest		
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service	0	43
Property Rent income	10,574	11,232
Other investment income		
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>10,604</b>	<b>11,324</b>
<b>Total Gross Income</b>	<b>32,193</b>	<b>28,905</b>
<b>Asset and investment sales, etc.</b>		
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>32,193</b>	<b>28,905</b>

# 26th Leicester (Blaby)Scout Group

## Receipts and Payments Account

Year start date

Year end date

For the year from	1-Apr-24	To	31-Mar-25
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### Receipts and payments

	2024/2025	2023/2024
	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	£	£
<b>Payments</b>		
<b>Charitable Payments</b>		
Youth programme and activities, uniforms and kit	15,196	20,686
Training	-	-
Rent		
Water and Sewerage	192	230
Electricity	2,601	4,886
Insurance	1,833	1,599
Cleaning, Repairs and Renewals	4,293	7,316
Broadband	390	330
Printing and photocopying	-	-
Contribution to camp costs	-	-
Licences	-	377
AGM and trustee expenses	235	25
Minibus costs	3,050	1,976
Other costs	49	-
Bank charges and Go-Cardless fees	751	819
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>28,590</b>	<b>38,244</b>
<b>Fundraising expenses</b>		
Funday		
Cinema	-	-
Detail 3		
Other fundraising costs		
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>28,590</b>	<b>38,244</b>
<b>Asset and investment purchases, etc</b>	<b>7,800</b>	
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>36,390</b>	<b>38,244</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>(4,197)</b>	<b>(9,339)</b>
<b>Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>21,517</b>	<b>30,856</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>17,320</b>	<b>21,517</b>



## Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

	31-Mar-25 Unrestricted funds £	31-Mar-24 Unrestricted funds £
<b>Cash funds</b>		
Bank current accounts	15,793	20,001
Bank deposit account	-	-
Building society account		
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service	-	-
Cash/Floats	1,527	1,516
<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>17,320</b>	<b>21,517</b>
<b>Other monetary assets</b>		
Tax claim	-	-
Debt due from rentals	-	-
Insurance claim		
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Investment assets</b>		
Investment property - detail		
Quoted investments		
Other investments - detail		
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Non monetary assets for charity's own use</b>		
Badge stock	-	
Shop stock	-	
Other stock		
<b>Land and buildings</b>	<b>253,000</b>	<b>253,000</b>
Motor vehicles	15,000	15,000
Scouting equipment, furniture etc	26,000	26,000
Other		
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>294,000</b>	<b>294,000</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Accounts not yet paid	-	-
Expenses incurred but not invoiced		
Subscriptions not yet paid		
Loan - detail		
Other liabilities Balance on Grant from LCC	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

### Contingent liabilities and future obligations

The above receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees  
Trustees on ..... and signed on their behalf by

Signature


Print Name

NEIL ROBERTS

PETER HOLDRIDGE

# Receipts and Payments Account

Year start date

Year end date

For the year from	1-Apr-24	To	31-Mar-25
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## Receipts and payments

	2024/2025 Unrestricted funds £	2023/2024 Unrestricted funds £
<b>Receipts</b>		
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<b>Grants</b>		
Other grants	0	0
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Fundraising (gross)</b>		
Other fundraising activities	1,722	525
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<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>32,193</b>	<b>28,905</b>

# 26th Leicester (Blaby)Scout Group

## Receipts and Payments Account

Year end date

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### Receipts and payments

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Other costs	49	-
Bank charges and Go-Cardless fees	751	819
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>28,590</b>	<b>38,244</b>
<b>Fundraising expenses</b>		
Other fundraising costs		
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>28,590</b>	<b>38,244</b>
Asset and Investment purchase - New Heating System	7,800	-
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>36,390</b>	<b>38,244</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>(4,197)</b>	<b>(9,339)</b>
Cash funds last year end	21,517	30,856
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>17,320</b>	<b>21,517</b>



## Independent examiner's report to the trustees of 26<sup>th</sup> Leicester (Blaby) Scout Group

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the 26th Leicester (Blaby) Scout Group for the year ended 31 March 2025.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the 26th Leicester (Blaby) Scout Group you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the 26th Leicester (Blaby) Scout Group accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

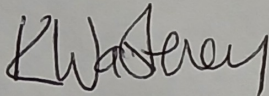
### Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the 26th Leicester (Blaby) Scout Group as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Signed:



Name: Kathryn Wasteney

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): ACA / Member of the ICAEW

Address: 11 Park Road, Blaby, Leicestershire

Date: 16 June 2025