

HOWLEY GRANGE SCOUT GROUP



ANNUAL REPORT
AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR
31ST DECEMBER 2025



Firstly, I wish to thank our Leaders and Section Helpers for providing a regular programme of meetings which, has enabled our Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts to maintain their enthusiasm and earn a variety of awards. The number of young people in the group continues to maintain at the same levels we have had for the last few years and we continue to have waiting lists for both Beavers and Cubs, no doubt I think due to how the variety of the programmes provided in each section.

I would also like to thank our Trustee Board for the continued support and the work that they do in helping to run the Group, by taking from the Leaders much of the administrative tasks required by The Scout Association. Without their support, we would be unable to deliver the programme of activities that each young person engages with.

I would also like to thank the parents who over the last 12 months have joined us to be part of our committee. Gaining the views of parents with children in each section, Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts being represented during our discussions is really supportive to helping to shape the activities we provide

Some of the notable activities for the year included:

In May we held our annual group camp at Blackwell Court which from what I was told was enjoyed by all. We used Blackwells other site at Pikes Pool to try some different activities

In July our Scouts took part in their annual Camping Competition the Jaquiss Shield attended by about 100 people from across the district, well done to those that took part

We also were involved in the district Beaver and Cub camp in July which had over 200 people in attendance as well as a busy programme of activities

However, towards the end of the year, we found out that Kinver Campsite that we use regularly was being closed down. This has impacted our programme for this coming camping season and we have needed to book other activities and look at other campsite for our annual camps. As such we have had to make the decision not to hold a group camp this year. However, this has given each section the opportunity to do more things focusing on their section which im sure you will hear about shortly

I'm also extremely pleased that, with the support of our volunteers, we've been able to continue to develop and refurbish the headquarters. Currently we are refurbishing our camping and activity store rooms, installing new shelving to cater for the variety of equipment we have. Part of this will include renovating our old garage area into a new activity room.

For the building our main issue as we are fully aware is the car park area. Ideally, we would like to have it tarmacked however given the size the bill would be in excessive of £50,000. We have been looking at various options of what to do to improve it and continue to do so. As soon as we can find a suitable option, we would aim to implement it. So, all that remains is for me to say my customary, but no less heartfelt, thank you to our volunteers.

Without them, Scouting simply couldn't happen. Thank you.

Beaver Scout Section Report

As a Beaver colony, we have 4 leaders, 1 young leader and 20 Beavers on our register to date. We also have 3 of our Scouts who help us out.

Since the last AGM we have been working on activities to help the beavers achieve their badges and having fun along the way.

We have done 2 camps over the last 12 months. We have taken part in the Howley Grange Group camp in May and the District Cub and Beaver camp in July. This was one of the first district events for the Beavers that we have attended and it was a big hit with everyone involved. It had a pirate theme and there were a load of different activities including Archery, golf, rifle shooting, orienteering (just to name a few) with a good sing-a-long around the camp fire. We also had the annual Group bowling night a few weeks ago, which all the kids enjoyed. A big thank you to Rich for organising!

Over the last 12 months we have been working hard and are now ready to award 90 badges, 4 of which are the highest award which the beavers can achieve – the Chief Scout Bronze. Some of the beavers are also close to getting a few more so with our over the next few months we can hopefully tick a few more off!

To achieve these badges, we have to meet certain criteria. Most of the work for these we do during our meetings or the activities we do on camp but there are some badges that the Beavers can do at home. If you are interested, please see the badge list on our board or we have some badge workbooks which can be taken home and completed.

Events for this year, we have a sleepover booked in for March and looking at doing one in December. There are also a few different district events in the works so watch this space.

On behalf of Leanne, Mark, Lorna and Myself we would like to thank you for your continued help and support.

Cub Scout Section Report

Over the past year, our Cubs have enjoyed an exciting programme packed with new skills, fresh experiences and plenty of fun together.

In October, we welcomed Jasper, our mischievous monkey friend, who has quickly become part of the pack. Through learning signs with Jasper, the Cubs have developed greater awareness of disability and inclusion, alongside a strong focus on kindness, understanding and celebrating differences.

We also created kindness paper chains, explored anti-bullying, and welcomed Guide Dogs UK to learn how guide dogs support people with visual impairments.

To celebrate 110 years of Cubs, we held a themed sleepover at the Hut — though very little sleeping took place! All activities centred around the number 110, including Lego builds limited to 110 pieces, Cheerio bird feeders using 110 Cheerio's, and marshmallow walls made from 110 marshmallows.

These challenges encouraged teamwork, collaboration and working within set limits, often alongside different members of the pack.

The Cubs also enjoyed bowling (a firm favourite, with Jasper joining in), games nights featuring traditional and modern board games, and exploring how Cubs has changed over 110 years — from badges and uniforms to food through the decades. We celebrated events such as Lunar New Year (Year of the Fire Horse) and finished the year with a Christmas party followed by a Cub Forum, where the Cubs shared ideas for camps, games and badges. Their suggestions have directly shaped our 2026 programme.

To prepare for the move to Scouts, Cubs practised basic knots, tried pioneering projects like shelter building and scarecrow making, and took on more responsibility. Highlights also included Nerf battles, district swimming, first aid, sparklers, rifle shooting, archery and axe throwing.

With visits to The Chocolate Shed and chocolate-themed activities, it's been a truly busy, creative and memorable year — and 2026 promises even more adventure.

Scout Section Report

Again to start the year we joined the other sections at Group Camp at Blackwell, where the Scouts tried out some different Activities including, Tree Trek, Multi Scramble, Kayaking and Raft Building. We discovered we have some very nimble Scouts with climbing, but some of the knotting for the rafts needs attention, as they broke apart, leaving a water monster, (Andrew Parton), trying to topple the remaining rafts!

We had a joint night in May with the Cubs, where they engaged in Air Rifles, Axe Throwing and Soft Archery activities. This was a great night and allowed for the cubs to meet the Scout Leader's, prior to some of them moving Sections.

We again attended the District Camping competition in June, whereby our team had to demonstrate their teamwork and Scouting Skills over several activities. These include Pitching a Storm Haven, First Aid & Minesweeper. Sadly, we didn't win, but again everyone had a great time, and we need to look towards this year, and making a bigger challenge for the coveted Jaquiss Shield trophy

We hosted the District Athlete Badge in July, utilising the Field under the motorway, and the Scouts managed to earn the Badge by taking part in various Track & Field Events, showing overall improvement.

Our last meeting before the summer break, was a Water/Nerf Night. As you can imagine, we probably made a bit of a dent into the local water supplies, with everyone, including leaders being fully drenched, but enjoyed engaging in some light-hearted entertainment! The Nerf War's also on that night, were a huge hit with the Scouts. We may look to do this again, if we feel brave enough!!

Again we joined up with the other sections for night at Hollywood Bowl, with 17 Scouts attending. This turned out to be quite competitive between the scouts, with some needing reminding, that it was called Bowling not Bouncing!! A couple even managed to jam the ball between the bumpers and the gutter. Unfortunately, the photographic evidence of this wasn't captured!

We are currently sat at 20 members of the troop, with 4 having successfully moved to explorers, and a further 2 to move on shortly. We were away camping last weekend, with 14 Scouts attending. This was run as a more back to Scout activities, rather than the usual more extravagant ones!

We have the District Cross Country (this Saturday 7th March), if anyone is interested, with various other District events through the year. These will be advised at a later date.

Finally, as always, I need to thank Andrew, Tom & Sarah for their commitment over the past year, no matter what part they play in the overall scheme of things. My thanks also go to Rich, for all he does, and the other section leaders, as without their influence, we wouldn't have progression through the sections.

General Account

Receipts & payments account for the year ending 31st December 2025

<u>Receipts</u>	2024	2025
Donations / Grants	£300.00	£50.00
Hire of Hall	£19,238.50	£20,992.00
Transfer from Restricted Account	£1,000.00	
Unpresented cheque	£180.00	
Total income	£20,718.50	£21,042.00

Payments

Water meter charges	£758.00	£800.00
Gas & electricity	£4,190.84	£5,823.77
Building repairs & maintenance	£1,616.48	£96.33
Bank charges	£68.00	£43.00
Insurance -	£1,349.74	£1,398.09
Cleaner + materials	£1,851.62	£2,257.98
I.T. Costs	£3,230.45	£2,961.42
Equipment	£257.41	£1,113.95
Waste disposal	£789.17	£1,474.10
Contract gardener	£475.20	£517.58
TV Licence	£159.00	£169.50
Pest control	£257.11	£920.34
First aid	£144.94	£114.31
Fire risk assessment _Annual check	£85.38	£89.66
Web site	£143.86	£187.06
Annual Alarm check	£161.50	£127.00
Capitation to District		£3,355.00
Boiler service		£114.00
Drains replacement	£7,440.00	
Defibrillator purchase	£441.34	
Replace server	£874.91	
Gifts	£45.00	
Skip hire	£289.00	£350.00
security	£127.83	
Transfer to Restricted Account	£3,250.00	
Total Expenditure	£28,006.78	£21,913.09

Summary Statement

	2024	2025
Opening balance	£14,589.63	£7,301.35
Add income	£20,718.50	£21,042.00
Total	£35,308.13	£28,343.35
Deduct expenditure	£28,006.78	£21,913.09
Closing balance	£7,301.35	£6,430.26
 Cash at Bank	 £7,301.35	 £6,430.26

HOWLEY GRANGE SECTION ACCOUNTS

01/01/2025 - 31/12/2025

OPENING BALANCE

Current Accounts	£659.36
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TOTAL	£659.36
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Income

Subs	£10,156.00
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Camp	£14,255.00
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Activities	£757.20
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Events	£680.00
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Grants	£5,500.00
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Misc	£378.72
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Total	£31,726.92
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Expenditure

Activities	£3,937.85
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Camp	£14,165.37
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Equipment	£2,886.38
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Refreshments	£740.54
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Events	£619.08
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Uniform and badges	£496.61
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Materials and equipment	£7,478.13
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Bank	£37.88
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Total	£30,361.84
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Summary

Opening Balance	£659.36
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Income	£31,727.22
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Expenditure	30.361.84
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Closing Balance	£2,024.74
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Howley Grange Scout Group

Development Account (Restricted Fund)

Account for the year ending 31st December 2025

	2024	2025
Opening Balance	£5,873.05	£8,123.05
Trf from main accoount	£3,250.00	£1,000.00
Sub Total	£9,123.05	£9,123.05
Payments		
Re-laying of hall floor		
Transferred to main account	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
Closing Balance	£8,123.05	£8,123.05
Cash at Bank	£8,123.05	£8,123.05

Summary of Income and Expenditure 2025

	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Closing Balance
Group Account	7301.35	21042	21913.09	6430.26
Section Account	659.36	31727.22	30361.84	2024.74
Development Account	8123.05	0	0	8123.05
Totals	16083.76	52769.22	52274.93	16578.05

Opening balance	16083.76
Total Income for the year 2025	52769.22
Total Expenditure for the year 2025	52274.93
Balance for the year 2025	494.29
Closing balance	16578.05



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

HOWLEY GRANGE SCOUT GROUP

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st DECEMBER 2025

**Charity no
(if any)**

524622

Set out on pages

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

**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:

M. A. Cannings

Date:

13th FEB 2026.

Name:

Malcolm Arthur Cannings

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body**

RETAIL AUDIT MANAGER (Rtd) MITCHELLS & BUTTERS LTD - C.I.M.A & C.I.I.A

(If any):

Address:

87. GOWER ROAD.

HALESOWEN.

WEST MIDLANDS B62 9BT.

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.