

Trustee Annual Report

Name of Charity	1st Whitehead Scout Group
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Charity Registration Number	104012
Year Start Date	02/01/2025
Year End Date	31/03/2026

The Purpose of your Charity	<p>The purpose of our Scout Group is to empower young people to contribute positively to society locally, Nationally and internationally, by engaging them in personal development across physical, intellectual, social, and spiritual aspects.</p> <p>The benefits of Scouting within our community are clear. We provide young people with the skills and confidence to be active citizens, embrace change, and reflect the diversity of the communities we serve. This impact is demonstrated through direct feedback from our members and the wider community.</p> <p>Scouting operates within a robust safety framework, ensuring young people can participate in a structured curriculum which includes participating in adventurous activities Safely. Our adult volunteers are provided training to ensure essential delivery of a safe and effective programme.</p>
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The principal address of the Charity	6A Beach Road Whitehead BT38 9QS
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The names of all Charity Trustees	<div> <i>Mr N Sharpe</i> <i>Mrs Sara Henderson</i> </div> <div> <i>Mr D McClean</i> </div> <div> <i>Mrs A McClean</i> </div> <div> <i>Mrs J Moody</i> </div> <div> <i>Mr R Beattie</i> </div> <div> <i>Ms Rachel Kydd</i> </div>
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The financial year the report relates to	02/01/2025- 31/03/2026
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A summary of the Charity's main activities and achievements in the year	<p>The year 2025/2026 has been another dynamic and rewarding period for 1st Whitehead Scout Group, marked by growth, achievement, and continued commitment to providing high-quality developmental opportunities for young people. Across our five sections—Squirrels (4–6), Beavers (6–8), Cubs (8–10.5), Scouts (10.5–14), and Explorers (14–18)—we have delivered a rich and engaging programme that supports skills for life, personal development, and community involvement.</p> <p>Programme Delivery and Participation</p> <p>Our youngest sections remain at full capacity, with waiting lists in place, reflecting the strong demand for Scouting within the Whitehead community. Thanks to the dedication of our volunteers and the support of parents, young people across all sections have taken part in a varied and challenging programme, earning numerous badges and developing confidence, resilience, and teamwork.</p> <p>Camps, Activities, and Skills Development</p> <p>This year saw several successful section camps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beavers and Cubs held a joint camp at Whitehead Scout Hall, during which two leaders completed assessments and achieved their Nights Away Permits. • Scouts enjoyed a camp at Ardnally Scout Centre, taking part in activities such as knife skills (making a bull roarer), canoeing, pioneering, and geocaching. • Planning is well underway for Cub Jamboree and Scout Camp in May, with a full Group Camp scheduled for August 2026. <p>The Scout section continues to grow, supported by the addition of a new Scout Leader. Leaders have been progressing through</p>
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their training, with one achieving their Hiking Supervisor Permit. Looking ahead, we are preparing to open a Duke of Edinburgh's Award Unit in September 2026 through Scouts NI, with leaders currently completing the required training.

Community Engagement

We remain committed to supporting local community events. This year, our young people and leaders attended the Remembrance Sunday parade, where we laid a wreath on behalf of the Group. Notably, one of our Explorers was selected to escort the High Sheriff during the service—an honour that reflects the calibre and character of our young members.

Young People's Achievements

2025/2026 has been an exceptional year for youth achievement. For the first time in over a decade, young people across multiple sections have earned Chief Scout Awards, the highest award available within each age range:

- Squirrels (4–6): 10 young people achieved the Chief Scout Acorn Award
- Beavers (6–8): 6 young people achieved the Chief Scout Bronze Award
- Cubs (8–10.5): 4 young people achieved the Chief Scout Silver Award

All recipients were celebrated at the District Award Ceremony at Mossley Mill, a proud moment for families, leaders, and the Group as a whole.

Infrastructure and Future Development


As part of our long-term commitment to providing a safe, modern, and sustainable facility, we have submitted an application to the NI Infrastructure Community Fund. If successful, the funding will support major repairs and upgrades to our Scout Hall, including:

- New roof

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New external cladding • Replacement external doors • New fascias, soffits, and guttering <p>We expect to hear the outcome of this application by 20 April 2026.</p>
A statement that the Trustees have had with regard to the Commission's Public Benefit requirement statutory guidance	<p>The Trustees of 1st Whitehead Scout Group have reviewed the Charity Commission Northern Ireland's statutory guidance on Public Benefit and are satisfied that the group's activities continue to meet these requirements. Our programmes are designed to provide young people with meaningful developmental opportunities, fostering skills, confidence, and citizenship in line with Scouting values. We remain committed to ensuring that all activities serve the public benefit and uphold the principles outlined by the Commission.</p>
A review of the Charity's financial position at the end of the year	<p>At the close of the financial year, 1st Whitehead Scout Group remains in a stable financial position, ensuring the continued delivery of high-quality Scouting programmes. Income has been generated through membership fees, fundraising activities, and external funding sources, allowing us to support core operational costs and invest in development projects. Expenditure has been carefully managed, covering essential running costs, programme resources, and improvements to our facilities. The Trustees have reviewed the financial position and are satisfied that the charity remains financially viable, with adequate reserves to support future activities in line with its charitable objectives. The financial statement was reviewed and approved in the Trustees minutes of meeting.</p>
Details of any funds held by the Charity that was materially in deficit at the end of the year and steps taken by the Charity Trustees to eliminate the deficit	<p>At the end of the financial year, 1st Whitehead Scout Group remains in a stable financial position, with no funds in material deficit. The Trustees have reviewed the charity's finances and are satisfied that income and expenditure have been effectively managed to support ongoing activities. Adequate reserves are maintained to ensure sustainability and the continued delivery of Scouting programmes in alignment with our charitable objectives.</p>

One or more of the
Charity Trustees must
sign and date this box.

ShyCe 19.5.26 CHAIR

 18 MAY
2026 Treasurer.