

Trustees' Annual Report

For the period

From (start date)

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to end date

3	1	1	2	2	4
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Section A

Reference and administration details

Charity name

6th Basingstoke Oakridge Scout Group

Other names the charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

HQ registration number

Charity's principal address

Oakridge Methodist Church

Vivian Road

Basingstoke

Postcode

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Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

(These will be published in the annual report of the charity and the Charity Register if reporting for a Registered Charity with a charity regulator)

	Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
1	Mark Wilson	Group Chair	13th Sept 24
2	Paul Hogan-Williams	Group Lead Volunteer	7th Nov 24
3	Louise Silverton	Trustee	Whole year
4	Alex Leatherland	Trustee	Whole year
5	Kermit Mckoy	Treasurer	5th Dec 24
6	Rhys Johnson	Trustee	Whole year
7	Liz Beal	Trustee	Whole year
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Section B**Structure, governance and management**

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document

The Group's governing documents are those of the 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.

(e.g. trust deed, constitution)

How the charity is constituted

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

(e.g. trust, association, company)

Trustee selection methods

The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.

(e.g. appointed by, elected by)

Additional governance issues (optional information but encouraged as best practice)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:

The Group is managed by the Group Trustee Board, the members of which are the 'Charity Trustees' of the Scout Group which is an educational charity. 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 Trustee Board consists of the Chair, Treasurer and up to 6 Trustees and meets every 3 months.

Policies and procedures adopted for:

Members of the Trustee Board complete Being a Scouts Trustee learning within the first 6 months of joining the Board.

a) the induction and training of trustees; b) trustee' consideration of major risks and the systems and procedures to manage them

This Group Trustee Board exists to make sure the charity is well-managed, risks are assessed and mitigated, buildings and equipment are in good working order, and everyone follows legal requirements and the organisation's policies and rules. Their support helps other volunteers run high-quality and safe programmes that gives young people skills for life.

Section B	Structure, governance and management (continued)
	<p>Risk and Internal Control</p> <p>The group has in place systems of internal controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss, these include 2 signatories for all payments and a comprehensive insurance policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered.</p>

Section C	Objectives and activities
Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document	<p>The Purpose of Scouting</p> <p>Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.</p> <p>The Values of Scouting</p> <p>As Scouts we are guided by these values:</p> <p>Integrity - We act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy and loyal.</p> <p>Respect - We have self-respect and respect for others.</p> <p>Care - We support others and take care of the world in which we live.</p> <p>Belief - We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes.</p> <p>Co-operation - We make a positive difference; we co-operate with others and make friends.</p> <p>The Scout Method</p> <p>Scouting takes place when young people, in partnership with adults, work together based on the values of Scouting and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 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- make and live by their Promise.

The Group meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings.

Section D **Achievements and performance**

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Squirrels
This has been a hectic year for Squirrels, with 4 more Chief Scout Acorn Awards earned by some very deserving and very busy squirrels.

We attended the Ferny Crofts squirrel Activity Fun Day in September. Some parents might also remember the squirrels coming home with lots of potatoes in September too as they learnt how to dig them up, it was like a gold rush for potatoes. In November we earned our space explorer badges and saw Saturn with our own eyes thanks to a visit from the Scout Section Leader Mark and his telescopes, and had loads of fun playing games with the other sections during the group Christmas Party. Let's not forget the group campfire for bonfire night with songs, campfire, and toasted marshmallows!

In spring we visited a farm to see new born lambs which was loads of fun, we visited a King Charles Soil Association farm near Silchester ran by the amazing Farmer Ben, who delivers poop and hay bales to Hawks allotment! We had our second squirrel sleep over, and buried a time capsule for next year's sleep over to find; thank you to Scout Leader Andy for being permit holder and assessing our leader Hawk for his indoor nights away permit. The section had an amazing time at Beastly, and we got to use our brand-new squirrel flag for the flag ceremony, our leaders may have more ideas for new fun and games to try in our weekly sessions.

On the 13th June we are celebrating two years of Squirrels at 6th Basingstoke with cake and skittles bowling!

Alex

Beavers
Since the last AGM our beavers have had a fantastic year. Our numbers have increased from 16 to 20, our leadership have increased from 5 to 6 and we still have just as much fun.

In this last year we attended the District beaver camp in June, Group camp in July, District teddy bears' picnic in September, and Paultons park in October. In December we had great fun together with the rest of the group at the Christmas party.

In February we had the opportunity to join the rest of the district at the Beavers around the world event and in March we held our annual sleepover at Base 2000, but this time with a spy training twist! April is always time for our visit to 4 Kingdoms with the rest of Hampshire's beavers and of course in May we all had the opportunity to go to Beastly!

Apart from the bigger events, we had lots of great opportunities during our weekly meetings as well.

We worked on lots of badges and had several visitors – a lovely lady with a guide dog in training, and 2 paramedics who taught us about first aid. We went bowling last year, and were also able to visit the fire station early this year. A very exciting evening, as three fire trucks were called out while we were there!

The Beavers gained a total of 100 activity badges in the last year, 70 staged activity badges, and 68 challenge badges. 5 Beavers also received their Chief scout bronze awards! And don't forget that our very own Sea Eagle (Sophia French) was named Beaver leader of the year for 2024!

All this is only possible with the help of the wonderful Beaver team, and I personally would like to thank them for all the hours that they are happy to invest in our young people.

Magda

Cubs

Cubs have had a busy 12 months, with lots of activities, badge work and fun, group camp, district camp and opportunities to learn from each other and the wider community.

We have had visits from a Police Officer, learning about home and personal safety, the Camrose Centre, to highlight how we can support and help those less fortunate and support the community, and following on from this the cubs filled 7 shoeboxes for Christmas to go to children less fortunate as part of the Rotary shoebox appeal. We also did some self care with a visit from Kath from Relax Kids with some mindfulness activities and positive affirmations.

We have been out and about as well, visiting the local Mosque and joining 7th Basingstoke for the evening, and the Cubs were on the radio when we visited Basingstoke community radio station being interviewed about what they enjoy about scouting!! They were all amazing and made us all very proud.

During the year we have also had a number of opportunities to be with the other groups as well, so have been able to share activities such as Bonfire night where we made smores and sang campfire songs, we had a wonderful Christmas Group Party with all sections, and a shared Easter orienteering egg hunt with the scouts which had the young people roaming across Black Dam Ponds in search of clues.

We have also made bread, cooked meals, practised some knife skills, knot tying, cooking pancakes over tealights, first aid and pokemon hunting ... phew the list goes on!!

We have gained a Young Leader in Ella which has been fantastic for the section, and in recent months 4 of our cubs have attained the highest award possible in the section, the Chief Scouts Silver award. To do this the Cubs must achieve all 7 of the challenge awards and at least 6 other activity or staged activity badges.

Support from the parents helping out at sessions to allow us to be out and about has been essential in the last 12 months and the ongoing support is very much appreciated so we can continue to offer a varied and exciting programme.

Raksha and the 6th Cubs team.

Scouts

"This year has marked another fruitful period for the Scouts, filled with various meetings and events that engaged our members and fostered a sense of community. Throughout the year, the Scouts participated in numerous meetings such as Patrol Forum and Games Night, which added a social dimension to their routine. Other practical sessions included topics on Diet, Sleep, and Physical Activity, as well as essential skills like Knots and Lashings and First Aid.

The Survival Skills Weekend was particularly well-received, enabling our Scouts to develop hands-on skills that are crucial in outdoor settings. The meetings also included festive events such as the Christmas Party and various themed nights, ensuring a diverse range of activities for our members.

On top of our regular meetings, several events took place that were instrumental in enriching the Scouts' experiences. The PL/APL Training Weekend served as an excellent opportunity for leadership development among our more advanced members. Other notable events included the Scout Survival Skills weekend and Jamboree on the Internet, where Scouts got to connect with peers globally. The Poppy Appeal Support allowed our members to contribute to a meaningful cause, showcasing the Scouts' commitment to community engagement. Our participation in District events, such as the District Youth Forum and the District Hike, also helped strengthen ties within the local scouting community.

We are particularly grateful for the dedication of our leaders this year. A special thank you goes to Andy, Stuart, Karen, and Jessica for their hard work, commitment, and unwavering support throughout the year. Their efforts have played a vital role in creating a positive environment for all our Scouts, allowing young people to learn and grow in a safe and supportive setting while having fun.

Looking ahead, while specific future plans were not discussed this year, we trust that the foundations laid will lead to continued growth and enjoyment for all our members.

As we draw this year's report to a close, we want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the children for their enthusiasm and spirit, which make the Scouting experience enjoyable for all leaders involved. We would also like to thank the parents for their ongoing support and those volunteers who work tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure the smooth running of our activities. We look forward to another year of Scouting, filled with learning, adventure, and friendship."

Mark

Section E	Financial Review
<p>Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves</p> <p>Quantify and explain any designations</p>	<p>Reserves Policy</p> <p>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. The Group Trustee Board considers that the group should hold a sum equivalent to 1 year's annual membership subscription running costs, circa £6,000.</p> <p>The Group held reserves of approximately £6,000 against this at year end. This is above the level/below required for operating expenses. However this can be explained by ongoing activities being self-funded.</p>
<p>Details of any funds materially in deficit (circumstances plus steps to eliminate)</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Further financial review details (optional information)</p> <p>You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising); investment policy and objectives; 	<p>N/A</p> <p>Investment Policy</p> <p>The Group does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer term investments. The Group has therefore adopted a risk averse strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies.</p>

Section F**Other Optional Information**

Plans for future periods (details of any significant activities planned to achieve them)

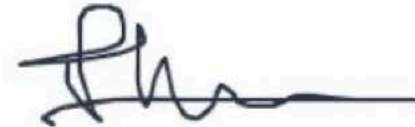
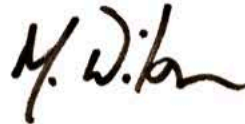
N/A

Section G**Declaration**

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)



Full name(s)

Mark Wilson

Paul-Hogan Williams

Position (eg Secretary, Chair)

Group Chair

Group Lead Volunteer

Date

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