1st Barton Scouts

Annual Report

2025-26

Contents

Contents 2
Group Trustee Board Members 3
Group Lead Volunteer Report 4
Squirrels Report 6
Beavers Report 7
Cubs Report 8
Scouts Report 9
Summary of Accounts 10

Group Trustee Board Members

Ex Officio	
Group Lead Volunteer:	Gavin Ions
Appointed	
Group Chair:	Stuart Veitch
Group Treasurer:	Al Deavin
Deputy Group Lead Volunteer:	Bex Brookes
Member Management:	Richard Vart
Coopted	
Squirrels Team Lead:	Christine Elliott
Beaver Team Lead:	Jon McCourt
Half Moon Partner:	Chris Gibson

Group Lead Volunteer Report

I always refer to last year's AGM report when I start writing this year's. Partially to make sure I don't repeat myself too much, but also to definitely repeat anything that's important. So here I go again.

The heart of this group - of any Scout group - is the volunteer team that runs it. Between our volunteers we've got well over a hundred years of Scouting experience. If you include the time many of us spent as youth members, we'd probably have several hundred years.

The thing is, not everyone can go on and clock up 50 or 60 years of service. People's "real lives" change. Their children move through the sections and leave and parent volunteers often leave with them. People move away. People just fall out of love with it. There's no pay rise to tempt anyone to stay a bit longer. When they want to go, they can just go, and we are always thankful for however much time they are able to give.

The result of volunteers leaving is that we need new ones to take their place. Constantly. And while we have a joining list of more than 70 young people waiting to take places in the group, we don't have the same for volunteers. Pretty much every section would say yes to just one more volunteer. Some would say yes to more. And if we don't get them? Well, we'd have to cut back on sessions, provide a less engaging programme, maybe even close sections. This is not a threat, it's just the way things are; the way they have always been.

So we need you, now more than ever. Volunteering has never been easier. Yes, there's a bit of learning to do because that's how we ensure our young people are safe, but a few hours every few years seems a pretty small thing to ask. What you get in return certainly outweighs the effort you put in in my view. You get to work with some wonderful young people, providing them with experiences they simply wouldn't get elsewhere. And most of the time you get to have those experiences too. And the rest of the team are pretty wonderful human beings. Lifelong bonds and friendships are made among our leadership team as well as among our young people.

So think about it. Talk to one of the team. Give us a hand.

As far as the young people in our sections go, we are full, or nearly full in every section, and we work hard to get people off the waiting list and into spaces ASAP. We continue to encourage anyone who wants to get their child onto the list to do it as long before their 4th birthday as possible. Plenty of people get their children onto that list when they are very young. In fact a new record was set this year when an as-yet-unborn child was added to the list more than 3 months before their due date. I can confirm here and now that this is definitely early enough.

The volunteers in our sections continue to do great work which you can read about further down this report. I'd like to thank all of our volunteers, whether they have served for 20 years or 20 days for the time, effort and love that they put into this group. I'm grateful that you have been my team for the past 7 years.

On that note, avid readers of this column will notice that it has been written and signed by the same guy who said he was stepping down last year. That's definitely not happened as quickly as I'd have wanted in the circumstances, but I said I'd support the team while they searched for a replacement, and that has meant continuing to act in the role for a further 12 months. This time it really is the end. Not only will my time as GLV end at the start of November, but at that point I'll take over the reins as chair of the trustees, where I hope I can continue to support the group for years to come.

I'm only able to take that role because both our chair and treasurer have reached the end of their respective second terms in the role. I can't thank Stuart or Al enough for being willing to step into those roles, particularly since it happened during the turmoil of Covid. They can both be proud of being a reliable steadying force on the board and putting the group on a sound footing in the normally unglamorous areas of finance and governance. I am proud to have served this group alongside you. You have my eternal gratitude for the support and service you've given.

I'm not taking on both of the vacated roles, and I wish a warm welcome and thanks in advance to Sarah Davenport who has stepped up as our treasurer. We're delighted to have you on board.

I'll see you all next year, but I won't be writing this report.

Fingers crossed.

Gavin

Squirrels Report

Another fun packed year for our Squirrels! We continue to operate at around 10-12 Squirrels with a steady team of volunteers. We welcome Jem and Karen to the team this year and are thrilled to have Jo back from a very short maternity leave.

The highlight for me as always is watching the Squirrels grow in confidence, develop their skills and prepare for the transition to Beavers.

Gaining badges is definitely a highlight for them and we plan our programme so that all criteria are ticked (whether they realise it or not!) The Acorn Award is the highest achievement they can gain in Squirrels and most are awarded this prior to moving on. To achieve this all 4 Challenge badges must be awarded and this is how we do it.

When they are playing games, working things out, making choices - they are often working as a team (All Together) making cosy places to read and relax, exercising in different ways (All About Me) spending time with the police visitor, finding out what is in our community and collecting items for the foodbank (All Around us) and going on mini hikes, indoor caving, spending time outdoors, backwoods cooking, Bear Hunt (All About Adventure) .....and lots more.

As a drey we have also spent a fantastic day at Hall Hill Farm this year. This was a great day where our Squirrels behaved impeccably and once again amazed us with their independence and resilience. A full day without mum or dad is a big thing at 4 years old! Who knew that all we needed was a hill to roll down and they would have been happy for hours!

More recently we joined the District Trip to Beamish which was a great day led mostly by our 4 Squirrels who made choices throughout the day about where to go next and how best to spend their pocket money! All great life skills.
So, lots more planned and more memories to be made for the coming year. Bring it on!

Christine, Sally, Ella, Jem, Jo, Karen

Charlie, Daniel, Daniel (Young Leaders)





Beavers Report

The Beavers have had a busy year so far!

The summer was particularly busy with paper rockets, Backwoods cooking and mini nature reserves and the end of term water fight! Since coming back after the summer holidays, we have been busy junk modelling, using lemons as a battery to power LED lights with limited success!

We had a trip to Beamish for the joint Birthday Celebrations and enjoy another wonderful day out at Moorhouse Adventure Centre near Durham for the Beaver Picnic, thanks to George for organising this!.

The autumn and winter terms will be equally as busy and everything will come to an end with the annual trip to the Panto and Xmas party.

We have said goodbye to our older members who moved up to Cubs and Welcome our new members from Squirrels, we have also welcomed Bridget and Rebecca as new Leaders!

Jon, Kat, Bridget, Rebecca and the YLs





Cubs Report

The Cub Section continues to thrive and we currently have 24 Cubs — a fantastic, lively pack who bring so much energy each week.

We are incredibly lucky to be supported by 3 regular Young Leaders, who are brilliant role models for our Cubs. They are a huge asset to the section, and we are very grateful for their commitment, enthusiasm and the positive example they set.

It's been another busy and varied year for our programme. Weekly activities have included:

- Spy Night
- Hikes
- Wide games
- Target sports
- Cricket
- A visit from a policeman

We aim to make every evening active, adventurous and fun, and the Cubs have thrown themselves into everything.

Camps and events have been a real highlight this year. This summer we attended Cubboree Camp, where Cubs enjoyed an amazing range of activities including climbing, mountain biking, target sports, zip wires and many more. It was a fantastic weekend and the Cubs had a great time challenging themselves and making new friends.

More recently we attended the Cub Multi-Activity Day at Ellerton Lake, and enjoyed a great trip to Beamish Museum with other groups from across the District. Both events were a wonderful opportunity for the Cubs to get out, try something new, and be part of the wider Scouting family.

Thank you to all the parents for your continued support, to our Young Leaders for all their hard work, and to all the Cubs for making it such an enjoyable year.

We are looking forward to another year of adventure ahead!

Bex, George & Izzy





Scouts Report

As Anth and Gavin took more of a back seat during the year, Andy B and Andy T have stepped up and kept things running smoothly.

They have delivered some Barton classic programmes, like Unbelievable Truth, Tin Can Pancakes and the Evil Easter Egg Hunt alongside trips to visit Swaledale Mountain Rescue and a patrol camp in the field at Melsonby.

They also supported the Stately Trails race series at Forcett Hall during the summer, cooking countless sausages for the runners at the event. This also turned into an unexpected fundraiser when the organisers of the event made a sizable donation to group funds to thank us for our help. Thanks Jess!

As ever, we managed to spend most of the summer term doing outdoor things at the field when it was available. We remain very thankful for having access to that space during the spring and summer, but we are always looking for new places for an adventure if you can think of any.

Scouts is one of the sections where we definitely have space to add more adult volunteers to the team, so if you are interested in helping us deliver our weekly programme, then please get in touch.

We're very sad to be missing Gang Show this year, but we hope to be back bigger and better next year.

Andy B, Andy T, Anth and Gavin



Summary of Accounts

1st Barton Scout Group
Receipts and payments account

	Year start date		Year end date
For the year from	01/10/2024	To	30/09/2025

Receipts	2025-26 £	2024-25 £
Receipts		
Donations, legacies and similar income		
Subscriptions	£9,149.32	£10,354.10
Donation	£ -	£839.35
Gift Aid	£2,126.21	£ -
Refund	£ -	£ -
Miscellaneous Income	£ -	£125.00
Sub total	£11,275.53	£11,318.45
Grants		
Maintenenace grant	£ -	£ -
Grant	£ -	£ -
Sub total	£ -	£ -
Events		
Family Camp	£ -	£3,637.97
Larkin	£ -	£ -
Cub Camp	£1,781.89	£ -
Event	£914.23	£128.70
Fundraising	£ -	£ -
Sub total	£2,696.12	£3,766.67
Investment income		
Bank interest	£ -	£ -
Building Society interest	£ -	£ -
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service	£ -	£ -
Other investment income	£ -	£ -
Sub total	£ -	£ -
Total Gross Income	£13,971.65	£15,085.12
Asset and investment sales, etc.	£ -	£ -
Total receipts	£13,971.65	£15,085.12

1st Barton Scout Group
Receipts and payments account

		Year start date		Year end date
	For the year from	01/10/2024	To	30/09/2025

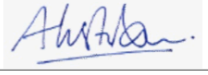
Payments		
	2025-26 £	2024-25 £
Payments		
Charitable Payments		
Membership	£4,636.00	£4,972.50
Group Expenses	£724.67	£1,030.69
Squirrel Expenses	£10.13	£ -
Beaver Expenses	£ -	£ -
Cub Expenses	£1,814.00	£962.26
Scout Expenses	£225.93	£144.00
Training	£ -	£ -
Barton Institute Rent	£3,300.00	£3,300.00
Insurance	£306.90	£ -
Equipment	£ -	£800.00
Badges	£ -	£ -
Leader Uniform	£ -	£ -
Website	£53.96	£179.51
Online Scout manager OSM	£305.50	£71.50
Charity Donation	£ -	£ -
OSM Float	£2,500.00	£3,335.00
Sub total	£13,877.09	£14,795.46
Events		
Family Camp	£ -	£3,318.00
Larkin	£ -	£ -
Gang Show	£ -	£2,284.48
-	£ -	£ -
Sub total	£ -	£5,602.48
Total Gross Expenditure	£13,877.09	£20,397.94
Asset and investment purchases, etc.	-	-
Total payments	£13,877.09	£20,397.94
Net of receipts/(payments)	£94.56	-£5,312.82
Cash funds last year end	£6,183.66	£7,765.01
Cash funds this year end	£6,278.22	£2,452.19

1st Barton Scout Group
Receipts and payments account

	Year start date		Year end date
For the year from	01/10/2024	To	30/09/2025

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year	2024-25 Unrestricted funds £	2023-24 Unrestricted funds £
Cash funds		
Bank current account	6,278.22	6,183.66
Bank deposit account	-	-
Building society account	-	-
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service	-	-
Cash/Floats	-	-
Total cash funds	6,278.22	6,183.66
(agree balances with receipts and payments account)	ok	ok
Other monetary assets		
Tax claim	-	-
Debts due from the County/Area/District/Group	-	-
Insurance claim	-	-
Sub total	-	-
Investment assets		
Investment property - detail	-	-
Quoted investments	-	-
Other investments - detail	-	-
Sub total	-	-
Non monetary assets for charity's own use		
Badge stock	-	-
Shop stock	-	-
Other stock	-	-
Land and buildings	-	-
Motor vehicles	-	-
Scouting equipment, furniture etc	-	-
Other	-	-
Sub total	-	-
Liabilities		
Accounts not yet paid	-	-
Expenses incurred but not invoiced	-	-
Subscriptions not yet paid	-	-
Loan - detail	-	-
Other liabilities	-	-
Sub total	-	-
Total net assets	6,278.22	6,183.66

The above receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on 3rd Oct 26 and signed on their behalf by -

Signature	Print Name	
	Stuart Veitch	Chair
	Alistair Deavin	Treasurer
		Auditor