



Bromley

Bromley District Scout Council Reg Charity No. 303547



You'll never believe what's been happening in Bromley Scouts....

Annual Report 2025/26

Annual Report and Accounts 2025-26

Bromley District Scout Council
Reg Charity No. 303547



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Chair's Welcome



What a year it's been for Bromley Scouts!

When I stepped into the role of Chair in January 2025, it's fair to say that whilst I had children involved in Scouting, I wasn't really at the heart of it. Eighteen months on, I have a much better understanding of just how remarkable this District is.

Looking back to last year's AGM, we were in a period of significant change. The rollout of the new digital systems brought challenges for volunteers across the District as everyone got to grips with new roles, responsibilities, notifications and processes. What struck me throughout was not the challenge itself, but the response. Time and again I watched people share knowledge, support one another and find practical solutions. That ability to work collaboratively, think creatively and keep moving forwards is one of Bromley's greatest strengths.

As Chair, I have spent much of the last year learning how Bromley operates and meeting the people who make it happen. One thing has become very clear: being the largest Scout District in the UK brings its share of challenges, but it also gives us access to an extraordinary depth of talent. Across Bromley there are so many skilled, creative and dedicated volunteers, and whilst the District is huge, it never feels like a large organisation when you see the passion, commitment and willingness to help that exists throughout it. We are exceptionally fortunate to have so many skilled, creative and dedicated people willing to give their time to Scouting.

Over the last year I have seen first-hand the extraordinary opportunities being created for our young people both by our own Events team and within groups. Young people have travelled internationally to places including The Gambia, Slovenia and the Czech Republic. Others have represented Bromley at major events, attended camps, learned new skills, made new friends or simply spent their first night away from home. Whether the adventure is around the world or around a campfire, every experience helps young people develop confidence, resilience and skills that will stay with them for life.

One of the things I have come to appreciate most is just how embedded Scouting is within the life of Bromley. Across the borough, our Groups play a key role in community events, Remembrance services, firework displays, local celebrations and fundraising activities. These events often involve enormous amounts of planning and coordination, yet our volunteers consistently step forward to make them happen. They also provide opportunities for our young people to represent Scouting at its very best. Every time I see them taking part with maturity, enthusiasm and respect, I am reminded how fortunate we are to have such outstanding young people in our District.

The success of the 60-4-60 campaign has been another highlight of the year. Working alongside Bromley Council and community partners, Sheila, Cossie, Clinton and many others have helped welcome 277 new adult volunteers into the District; an extraordinary achievement that exceeded even our most ambitious expectations! It has been wonderful to see so many of you to celebrate those successes together, whether at Christmas, at the 60 for 60 celebration event or here at our AGM. In an organisation run entirely by volunteers, taking the time to say thank you is incredibly important.

Alongside this, we have continued to develop our governance and operational structures as we adapt to the changing expectations placed on charities and trustees. Governance requirements continue to evolve, but Bromley is fortunate to have a wealth of expertise across the District. One of my priorities is ensuring we share that knowledge more effectively so that Groups feel supported and no one has to tackle challenges alone.

Looking ahead, there is much to be excited about. Our relationship with Greenwich has already enabled Bromley Scouts to sleep out at a UNESCO World Heritage Site whilst raising money for Bromley Homeless. We are also developing an exciting collaboration with City of London Livery Companies which we hope will open up new opportunities and experiences for our young people in the years ahead.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who has taken the time to engage with the Trustee Board over the last year. We are committed to being visible, approachable and supportive, and we will continue to work hard to strengthen those relationships across the District. If you see us at an AGM, event or campfire, please come and talk to us. We want to hear your ideas, understand your challenges and help wherever we can.

Most importantly, thank you. Bromley Scouts achieves incredible things because of the thousands of volunteer hours given so generously by people across the District. I have been continually humbled by the commitment, energy and enthusiasm I have seen, and I feel incredibly privileged to play a small part in it.

Thank you for all that you do.

Anne-Mare



Meet The Trustees

The Trustees play an important role in ensuring the Bromley Scouts abide by the Charity Commission and The Scout Association rules.

Trustees are usually invited to apply because they have skills from their professional life or life experience that are useful to Bromley Scouts. This might be skills in financial affairs, management, organisational governance or development or sometimes they have lots of experience in a certain sector.

Having a well-balanced group of trustees is good for an organisation. In June 2026 we are saying goodbye to our Trustee Derrick Sanyahumbi who is stepping down after holding roles both in the District and the wider Scouting family where he has been involved with how we ensure we are a diverse and inclusive organisation. Thank you for everything Derrick!

You can find out a bit more about the Trustees going into 2025-26 below.



Could it be you?



Trustee of the Future

We're currently recruiting a new Trustee to help guide Bromley Scouts, the largest youth organisation in the London Borough of Bromley, supporting over 3,000 young people and nearly 1,000 volunteers.

If you—or someone you know—have skills, experience and a desire to make a difference, we'd love to hear from you.

Anne-Marie.Conneally@bromleyscouts.org.uk



Sheila Howard



Trustee & Group Lead Volunteer

Sheila became Bromley District Lead Volunteer in December 2021 having founded 1st Beckenham South. She really enjoys how this role allows her to meet people in the District, tell non-members of the advantages and rewards of volunteering, whilst seeing that the young people have experiences and opportunities that they would not get from school. The Lead Volunteer role manages all the operational activities of Scouts.

"I love the various scout badges and helping children to learn skills and knowledge to earn them. I am so proud when they complete their top awards, as I know how much effort goes into achieving them!"



Jonathan Pownall



Treasurer/Trustee

Jonathan has been Treasurer and Trustee for 23rd Bromley Scout Group since 2019 and for Bromley District Scouts since 2024. He is also a Director, Treasurer and Trustee of Bromley Mencap, on top of his 'day job' in a senior role at the UK's independent public spending watchdog, the National Audit Office. He is responsible for District Finances and compliance around this.

"It is a great strength of Scouting that we can draw on the richness of experience of volunteers from all sorts of different backgrounds. Scouting offers the opportunity to meet like-minded people, and develop deep friendships and skills for life. And myself and many of my contemporaries met our life partners through Scouting!"



Anne-Marie Conneally



Chair of Trustees

Anne-Marie became involved in Scouting when she signed her husband Simon up as a leader so their son could join 1st Beckenham South. She became Chair of the Trustee in January 2025. She works in healthcare and has experience in the NHS and private sector.

"I'm in absolute awe of the number of people who volunteer in Bromley. We've got some volunteers who've been helping for over 50 years which is pretty amazing! I think the thing I would say is that a little bit of your time can make a big impact in someone else's life. I'm very proud of the amazing work that happens in Bromley and am keen to help support wherever I can"

Asif Khadim Malik



Trustee

Asif is an Assistant Cub Leader for 1st Bromley Al-Emaan Center - the District's first Muslim group which he helped found. He's an experienced Trustee and brings that experience to Bromley District. Outside of Scouts he is an Enterprise Architect and Managing Consultant - designing and delivering large complex programs for organisations in financial services, public sector and life sciences.

"Scouting is great for people looking to develop leadership skills, network, form bonds with the community and help develop the future. It is also a great place to travel, camp and be adventurous. My favourite badges these days are pioneering and digital maker"

Russ Zapple



Trustee

Russ joined 7th Petts Wood when he was 8 - so over 50 years ago! He sits as a Trustee for Bromley Scouts and South London County making him a key link between the two and helps to keep us up to date with policies that are changing. Outside of Scouts he works in logistics for the food industry.

"Scouting has given me so many experiences through the years. Many are enjoyable but all are valuable life experience. Most of my closest friends are from scouting. Adrian and I were invested together over 50 years ago and remain close friends to this day. I love being part of providing fabulous events for young people. Playing key roles in Austria 2010 for 450 and Canpdowne 2013 for 1500 and seeing and hearing the joy they brought people was amazing."

Andy Howard



Trustee

Andy joined Scouting as a Cub scout in 1974 going through Scouts and Venture Scout (loved it!), before becoming Deputy District Commissioner for 15 years. He's held most leadership roles over the years including Group Scout Leader. He's a Trustee for both the District and 3rd Orpington where he helps out when possible.

"I love seeing children having a good time and growing up to be a valued part of the community. I really enjoy the camping aspect and working at Jamboree's. If it wasn't for scouts I would not have the great life I have today with very good friends of over 40 years or my wife who I meet while working at the Biggin Hill Air Show when the Scouts used to run all of the ticket gates"

Les Dobbs



Trustee

Coming from a Scouting family Les attended meetings from about the age of 5 going through Cubs, Scouts and Senior Scouts. In 1969 he received his first adult appointment as an Assistant Scout Leader. Since then he's had held a range of appointments at Group (54 yrs) District (22 yrs) and County levels (19 yrs). Thanks Les!

"The opportunity to make a positive change in the development of young people is incredibly satisfying. Also, a bit of a cliché but the "out" in scouting has always appealed to me at whatever stage of my life. Now slightly less strenuous than it used to be!"

Tim Younge



Trustee

Tim has been involved in Scouts for a long time! He's a leader at 5th Beckenham and after a career in major projects he has been putting his skills to good use by helping with works at DHQ and with fundraising events like the Beckenham Fireworks and the Easter Egg Hunt.

"I really enjoy the sense of community in Scouting. At the 5th we have a large group and it's lovely to watch the children move through sections, gaining confidence and growing in themselves. It's often true for adult leaders too - it's brilliant to see and I find it really rewarding. Plus I love a BBQ!"

Goodbye and thank you to our outgoing Trustee Derrick....

Derrick Sanyahumbi



Trustees' report

Reference and administration information

We present below the reference and administration details of the charity as required by law.

Administration

Name: Bromley District Scout Council

Registered Charity Number: 303547

Registered Address: 15 Prospect Place, Bromley, BR2 9HL

Trustees

The charity trustees who managed the charity from 1st February 2025 to the date of signing this report were the members of the District Trustee Board as follows:

- Anne-Marie Conneally - Chair
 - Jonathan Pownall - Treasurer
 - Sheila Howard - District Lead Volunteer
 - Les Dobbs
 - Andrew Howard
 - Asif Malik
 - Derrick Sanyahumbi
 - Russell Zapple
 - Tim Younge
-
- Billy Moss/Matthew Higginbottom - Youth Representative to the Trustee Board

The board would like to especially thank Jean Dobbs who provides much appreciated administrative support to the District Trustee Board.

Honorary Vice Presidents

Giles Barnett Ex DC Bromley (5 year appointment to July 2028)

Gary Peppiatt Ex DC Bromley (10 year appointment to July 2033)

Bankers

Current accounts

HSBC Bank plc

CAF Bank

Investment accounts

Barclays Bank plc

CAF Bank

COIF

Co-operative Bank plc

Hinckley & Rugby Building Society

Monmouthshire Building Society

Independent Examiner

Karl Kelledy FCCA

We are delighted to welcome back Karl this year as our independent examiner. Karl is familiar with Scouts having previously been Treasurer of 22nd Bromley as well as having experience both as Treasurer of Bromley Voluntary Sector Trust and as a Church examiner. He meets the eligibility criteria being a Fellow of the Chartered Association of Certified Accountants and his professional career is in the banking sector.

Governance and management

Governance

The charity is governed by its governing document, a Deed of Trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity. The charity also follows the requirements of the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association (POR).

The Trustees as a body are supported by a number of appointed sub-committees each with its area of specialism and focus: Finance, Operational and Wilberforce.

Management

In 2024/25 The Scout Association restructured to provide greater clarity and segregation between District operations and governance. A new District Constitution was drawn up and adopted by the District Scout Council in July 2024.

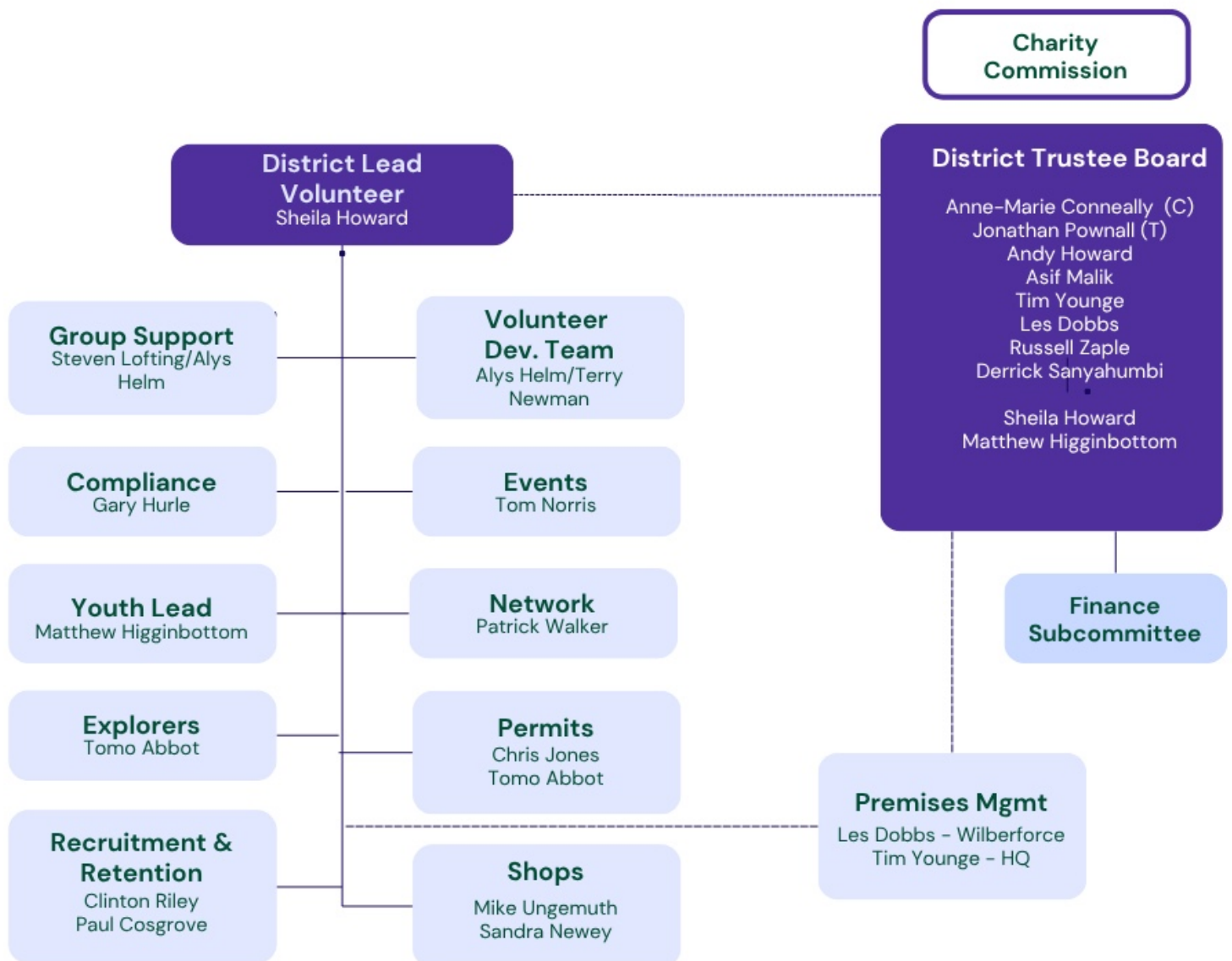
That change is now well embedded and the District benefits from well attended, well structured Operational and Trustee boards. The last year has had some challenges for all members as roles have shifted and we have adapted to the new IT system and ways of working. We are grateful to all our members for their flexibility and willingness to engage with this period of change. It's been a particular challenge for Bromley because of the size of the Bromley District compared to other districts in the UK. We are incredibly pleased to see this evidenced in our full compliance with Safety and Safeguarding areas which is led brilliantly by Gary Hurle. Our active programme of adult volunteer recruitment has been equally well supported by Terry Newman and his team who lead our welcome conversations and onboarding.

Our structure

How we are structured

The District has a District Lead Volunteer (DLV) who is responsible for all of the operational activities in the District. In an area as large as Bromley District, it would be impossible for one person to manage this, so our DLV Sheila has lots of people who support the role. You can see the way Bromley District is organised below. To be clear - every area is supported by lots of volunteers behind the scenes and we have a named person leading each team.

Thank you to all our amazing volunteers and leaders - Bromley District would not function without the work you do and the time you give to supporting young people.



Risk and internal controls

The Trustee Board has a duty to identify, assess and manage the risks to which the District is exposed and to ensure that appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud, error, financial loss and operational disruption.

The District maintains a Risk Register which is reviewed regularly by the Trustee Board. Risks are categorised under Governance, Financial, Operational, Safety & Safeguarding, Legal & Regulatory, Property and Reputational headings, with mitigation measures identified for all significant risks.

During 2025/26 the Trustee Board continued to implement the governance changes introduced by The Scout Association and reviewed its arrangements following the Charity Commission's regulatory advice to Scout charities. Particular focus has been given to safeguarding oversight, governance effectiveness, trustee succession planning and financial controls.

The Trustee Board monitors compliance with Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR), charity law, data protection requirements and insurance obligations. During the year, Trustees have also increased their engagement with Groups through attendance at AGMs, governance support sessions and the sharing of good practice. A programme of governance workshops and outreach activity has been established to strengthen understanding of trustee responsibilities, support succession planning and encourage collaboration across the District.

The Trustee Board remains committed to the continuous improvement of governance, risk management and financial oversight across the District. During 2025/26, work commenced on a programme to review and strengthen internal controls, assurance processes and support arrangements for Groups. The Trustees believe that these arrangements, alongside the District's culture of collaboration and shared expertise, provide a strong foundation for identifying, monitoring and managing risk across Bromley Scout District.

Objectives and activities

Organisation and aims

The Scout Association exists by authority of Royal Charter which gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association, which are approved by His Majesty's Privy Council. The Bye Laws, in turn, authorise the making of rules for the regulation of the Association's and this District's affairs. A copy of the Bye Laws is available from the Association's Headquarters at Gilwell Park. The Scout Council of Bromley District is a Registered Charity - Bromley District Scout Council (Reg No. 303547) whose purpose is to develop young people within the structure of the Scout Association. It is one of 7 Districts within the new Greater London South Scout County, which encompasses the former Greater London South and South East Counties.

Our work is focused on promoting and developing Scouting within our District and providing support and guidance to over 40 Scout Groups. The programmes of youth-orientated events and activities provided by the Scout Groups in Bromley District benefits young people by developing their self-confidence and social skills alongside practical and other important skills for life. Bromley Scouts welcome all young people regardless of personal background, faith, gender or any personal circumstances and we believe this philosophy of openness to all enriches everyone through the sharing of the skills, aptitudes and life experiences of our young people and the adult volunteers who support this work.

The purpose of the BDSC Charity aligns with that of the Scout Association, namely

"Scouts actively engages and supports young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society. In partnership with adults, young people take part in fun indoor and outdoor activities. They learn by doing, by sharing in spiritual reflection and by taking responsibility. They make choices, undertake new and challenging activities, and they live their Scout Promise."

Achievements and performance



Lead Volunteer report - Sheila Howard

As I come to the end of my five-year appointment and write my final Lead Volunteer AGM report, I can only reflect on how proud I am of what our volunteers and young people have achieved over yet another year.

When I began this role in 2021, Bromley Scout District had a membership of 4,040. Today, that figure stands at 4,489 - an increase of 449 members, despite the losses we experienced during the pandemic. Behind those numbers are thousands of young people benefiting from Scouting and hundreds of volunteers who make those opportunities possible.

The last five years have seen significant change. We have navigated the challenges of the pandemic, embraced major changes in governance and technology, expanded our events programme and welcomed hundreds of new adult volunteers into the District. Throughout it all, our focus has remained unchanged: providing outstanding opportunities, adventures and skills for life for young people.

As the largest Scout District in the UK, Bromley continues to demonstrate what can be achieved through collaboration, innovation and volunteer commitment. None of our successes happen by accident. They are the result of thousands of volunteer hours given freely by people who care deeply about making a difference to young lives.

I am incredibly proud of what we have achieved together and excited about the opportunities that lie ahead for Bromley Scouts.

There have been so many immense achievements in this past year:

- We have increased our adult membership by 29% through our 60-4-60 campaign.
- A UNESCO world heritage site sleep out, recognised by the King and featured in the national Scouting media [here](#).
- International trip to Disneyland for our Cubs
- Our largest St George's Day ever with more than 1300 attendees!



Alongside all this we are busy planning the first all sections, district-wide camp in September 2026, which will incorporate a celebration of 110 years of Cubs and 40 years of Beavers.

Achievements and performance



Census Review

Total membership has risen to 4489, an increase of 7%. Our recruitment of the past year has seen a 28.8% increase in adult members giving us 1146 adult members!

 Scouts Bromley SECTION MOVEMENT ACROSS BROMLEY DISTRICT 2026		
SECTION	CURRENT MEMBERSHIP	MOVEMENT (CHANGE)
 Squirrels	149	↓ -6.9% (-11)
 Beavers	753	↑ +4.9% (+35)
 Cubs	955	↓ -5.9% (-60)
 Scouts	1,000	↑ +7.1% (+66)
 Explorers	442	↓ -2.0% (-9)
 Network	44	↑ +51.7% (+15)
 TOTAL YOUTH MEMBERSHIP: 3,343 YOUNG PEOPLE		



The District Team continues to ensure that leaders are recognised for their service and contributions to scouting. As well as celebrating our new members in our 60-4-60 campaign. We are delighted to welcome 277 new adult members who joined the District between April 25-March 26.

In May, we hosted a special celebration afternoon at Bromley Football Club to welcome the many new volunteers who have joined Bromley Scouts over the past year. Bringing together adults from across all volunteer roles, the event was attended by the Deputy Mayor and supported by Bromley Council. Guests enjoyed a private stadium tour, pitch-side photographs, drinks and a buffet, while the District team had the opportunity to thank them for choosing to be part of our growing Scout community.



We continue to have had a record number of awards and leader recognitions in the district this year, including:

- Five Awards of Merit
- Two Bar Awards of Merit
- One Bar to the Silver Acorn

Our highest scouting award of the Silver Wolf went to **Paul Cosgrove**, many congratulations on behalf of the District!



Events 2025-26

Bromley District Scouts Youth Events Team – Tom Norris

Bromley District Scouts' Youth Events Team has had another busy year! From taking Squirrel Scouts on brand new adventures to offering a wide range of challenges to Explorer Scouts, over the last year the Youth Events Team has been working hard to deliver fun and exciting events across the district.

Brave and adventurous Beavers from across the district ventured to the International Beaver Space Station, where they 'slept' overnight in our state of the art space sleeping pods, and spent the day completing exciting activities which earned them their Space Activity Badge. They learnt about the phases of the moon, heard inspirational stories from astronauts and decorated their very own space suit!

In keeping with the lack of sleep theme, last year saw a record breaking Moonwalk with over 400 Scouts and Explorers exploring Downe Activity Centre to find bases and completing challenges for which they were marked on their success and teamwork skills. The young people who participated, demonstrated a great deal of determination and resilience and did their troops and units proud! The winning groups enjoyed infinite bragging rights and the company of a proudly engraved trophy.

July saw Beavers from across Bromley District travelling the world (kind of) to learn about Scouting in other countries. They had a great deal of fun learning new games, trying new food and experiencing an element of international Scouting, all in an effort to earn their International Activity Badge.

In September over 100 Explorer Scouts travelled to Alton Towers for a fright filled weekend of Alton Towers' Scare Fest. They rode the thrilling rides in the dark and experienced the hair-raising spooky atmosphere of this event, followed by a not so thrilling ride in minibuses back to Bromley!



Exploring space again and delivering an out of this world program, the Youth Events Team awarded lots of Squirrel Space Explorer Badges to our brave Squirrel astronauts in October.

We saw over 300 young people from across the district earn various stages of their Swimming badge. From the youngest people in the district demonstrating their ability to jump into the water safely to our older participants pushing their limits and braving the long distance swim, all participants did an amazing job of earning their badge and had a great deal of fun doing so.

Christmas festivities were in full swing in December when Bromley Squirrels attended the 'carols around the campfire' event. Huddled around a festive fire, the Squirrels sang songs, made s'mores and even met the big man himself!

Beavers had a fantastic time at our 'Experiment Activity Badge Day', where they completed a variety of experiments. From witnessing flames change colour, from the use of different chemicals, to creating elephants' toothpaste the Beavers went home having learnt loads and having had a great time!

Caked in mud and undoubtedly exhausted, Scouts and Explorers left Frylands Wood in March having completed the best Scouts of Steel course yet! They did exceptionally well given the particularly horrendous conditions and should be proud of the resilience they demonstrated at this year's muddy assault course race.

The famous Bromley District Fox was up to his usual antics at the end of March, but rest assured, the Easter bunny saved the day and delivered over 200 Easter Eggs to Beavers and Squirrels from across the District. Participants completed Easter themed challenges and games and went home with their own easter-egg hand delivered by the Easter Bunny!

In April our Cubs packed their bags and set off on the trip of a lifetime to Disneyland Paris, and what a magical experience it turned out to be! From thrilling rides and dazzling parades to meeting their favourite characters, every moment was filled with excitement, laughter and memories that will last forever. Beyond the magic of the parks, it was incredible to see our young people grow in confidence and build new friendships.



St George's Day brought together over 1,300 Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers, Networkers and adult volunteers to renew their promise and enjoy some of the 43 activities that we offered throughout the day.



STILL TO COME...

The remainder of the year will see Scouts competing to be the winning team of the jungle in I'm a Scout Get Me Out of Here, Explorers mixing with and meeting other young people from across the district (and beyond) at M*E*S*H, Cubs competing to be crowned the best chefs of the District and our District Cooking Competition and perhaps most notably, the first ever District camp, where we aim to bring together Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers to enjoy a jam-packed weekend of fun, adventure and friendship.

THANK YOU!

A huge thank you to the amazing team who works tirelessly to pull this all off!

For all the late nights at District Head Quarters, early morning set ups and relentless van unloads at Wilberforce, thank you.

You guys are great!

2026

BROMLEY
SCOUTS
YOUTH
EVENTS

Squirrels	EASTER EGG HUNT - 21ST MARCH ST GEORGE'S DAY CELEBRATION - 26TH APRIL 5TH BRITHDAY SLEEPOVER - 16TH - 17TH MAY DISTRICT CAMP - 18TH - 20TH SEPTEMBER SWIMMING BADGE EVENING - 14TH NOVEMBER
BEAVERS	SCIENCE BADGE DAY - 7TH FEBRUARY EASTER EGG HUNT - 21ST MARCH ST GEORGE'S DAY CELEBRATION - 26TH APRIL DISTRICT CAMP - 18TH - 20TH SEPTEMBER SWIMMING BADGE EVENING - 14TH NOVEMBER
cubs	ST GEORGE'S DAY CELEBRATION - 26TH APRIL 6-A-SIDE FOOTBALL - 7TH JUNE DISTRICT CAMP - 18TH - 20TH SEPTEMBER SWIMMING BADGE EVENING - 14TH NOVEMBER COOKING COMPETITION - 5TH DECEMBER
SCOUTS	SCOUTS OF STEEL (ASSAULT COURSE) - 1ST MARCH ST GEORGE'S DAY CELEBRATION - 26TH APRIL I'M A SCOUT GET ME OUT OF HERE - 12TH - 14TH JUNE DISTRICT CAMP - 18TH - 20TH SEPTEMBER SWIMMING BADGE EVENING - 14TH NOVEMBER BATTLE BOTS - 29TH NOVEMBER
EXPLORERS	SCOUTS OF STEEL (ASSAULT COURSE) - 1ST MARCH ST GEORGE'S DAY CELEBRATION - 27TH APRIL MESH - 3RD - 5TH JULY DISTRICT CAMP - 18TH - 20TH SEPTEMBER MONOPOLY EUROPE EDITION - 10TH OCTOBER

Network

District Explorer and Network Report – Tomo Abbott 14-25 District Team Lead Volunteer

This year has been an exciting and dynamic one for the 14–25 section in Bromley District, with continued growth, increased engagement, and some truly memorable experiences both locally and internationally. With around 30 Explorer Scout Units active across the District. We have recently opened up a new unit; 5th Bromley ESU. We have two thriving Network Units, the energy and enthusiasm from our young people and volunteers has been outstanding.

Programme Highlights

Explorer Scouts have been busy with a rich and diverse programme. Several units attended international camps. 1st Crystal Palace had a wonderful trip to The Gambia earlier in the year. Other Units travelled around the country to attend summer camps. Closer to home 8th West Wickham Explorers have been helping out with Bromley Homelessness on a regular basis in their kitchen.

Awards and Achievements

The District has seen a handful of members completing their King Scout Award and some went to Windsor for their celebration back in April. We have also had Duke of Edinburgh participants completing Bronze, Silver and Gold awards so well done to them!

Young Leaders

We have recently launched a Young leaders drop in to help Explorers complete their missions for their YL Award. It's been great to see young people taking an active lead and helping out and we are looking to see many more complete the Award.

Network

Patrick Walker was appointed as Network Lead. We had a group of Networkers completing their Explorer belt during which they travelled through the Czech Republic and Slovakia completing several projects along the way. There was a joint network camp back in April with around 25-30 attending the weekend which was great.

Acknowledgements

A huge thank you to all leaders, volunteers, and supporters who have engaged with the District Explorer Team and contributed to the growth and success of Explorer Scouting in Bromley. Special thanks to the District 14–25 Team for their dedication and leadership:

- Mark Knill – Duke of Edinburgh's Award Coordinator
- Hilary Teare – Young Leader Programme
- Di Philips – King's Scout Award Lead

Your commitment continues to make a lasting difference in the lives of our young people. Here to another exciting and fun year ahead.

Financial Review

Reserves Policy

The underlying financial principle of the charity is to support and assist all the functions and activities undertaken by our members. To this end we do not set out to make an annual cash surplus. We aim to at least break even on our day-to-day expenses and maintain sufficient unrestricted general funds for repair and maintenance of our properties and other assets, capital investment within the District when required and a loan facility for Groups needing financial support. The District Reserves Policy is incorporated in the Financial Management Policy which is regularly reviewed by the District Finance Sub-Committee and the Trustees as are actual reserve fund levels.

Review of transactions

The accounts comprise core District activities, the Wilberforce Scout Centre, the Youth Events team and those Explorer and Network Units attached to and accounting through the District. Overall, the net position for the year is a cash outflow of £22,722 (2024-25: outflow of £58,580), although as some of these transactions involve the granting or repayment of loans, which are included in the statement of monetary assets, the overall position taking account of the impact on assets other than cash is a decrease in net assets of £23,494 (2024-25: £42,318).

Membership subscriptions represent amounts due based on the January 2025 census and have been paid in full. The autumn 2025 update to POR changed how membership subscriptions are accounted for. Previously, the amount payable to the Greater London South County was deducted from capitation received from Groups to show an amount as net income retained. Membership fees paid to County are now shown separately under expenditure and the prior year figures have been restated for comparability. This is a presentational change only and there is no impact on net expenditure or net assets.

Trading income from Scout Shop sales was £52,999 and the cost of sales, adjusted for opening and closing stock, is £27,668. Trading income for the Wilberforce Scout Centre is £21,950 and expenditure incurred is £23,494.

Youth Events Team income is £77,736 and expenditure £75,997. Receipts and payments for Explorers and Network include 41st Bromley and the Chislehurst Cavemen ESUs and Network and represent their day-to-day activities.

Financial Outlook

Bromley District Scout Council remains in a very strong financial position with unrestricted reserves of £597,636 (2024-25: £614,330) including £463,272 (2024-25: £479,984) in cash funds. These will enable us to invest further in Scouting in Bromley, providing support to Groups and maintaining facilities for the benefit of all.

FDeclaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity trustees:



Anne-Marie Conneally
District Chair
24 June 2026



Jonathan Pownall
MA ACA CISA
District Treasurer
24 June 2026

Receipts and payments account for the year ended 31st January 2026

		2025-26			2024-25
		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Total Funds £
RECEIPTS					
Membership subscriptions					
Capitation received	Note 7	179,303	-	179,303	147,499
Refund of prior year overpayments		-	-	-	(118)
		179,303	-	179,303	147,381
Donations, legacies and similar income					
Donations		4,993	-	4,993	1,288
Gift Aid		115	-	115	227
World Scout Jamboree 2027 support		-	-	-	2,000
		5,108	-	5,108	3,515
Grants					
Jack Petchey Foundation	Note 3	-	5,700	5,700	13,560
Group start-up funding	Note 3	-	-	-	3,500
		-	5,700	5,700	17,060
Trading Income					
Scout Shop sales		33,522	-	33,522	31,239
Wilberforce Scout Centre		13,396	-	13,396	20,420
District HQ - Parking & Rentals		6,081	-	6,081	6,023
		52,999	-	52,999	57,682
Fundraising and events					
Youth Events	Note 3	72,701	-	72,701	83,779
Explorer Units & Network		13,291	-	13,291	7,558
		85,992	-	85,992	91,337
Investment Income					
Bank interest		7,117	-	7,117	8,160
		7,117	-	7,117	8,160
Total income from activities		330,519	5,700	336,219	325,135
Loan repayments received					
9th Orpington	Note 4	430	-	430	430
9th Orpington (Loan 2)		670	-	670	670
3rd St. Paul's Cray		1,800	-	1,800	1,500
		2,900	-	2,900	2,600
Total receipts		333,419	5,700	339,119	327,735

		2025-26			2024-25
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
		£	£	£	£
PAYMENTS					
Membership fees					
Membership subscriptions paid to County	Note 7	172,095	-	172,095	140,193
Other charitable payments					
Youth Events	Note 3	75,998	-	75,998	122,316
Explorer Units & Network		14,627	-	14,627	6,034
Scout Youth Expense		-	-	-	478
Awards and Other Activities		27	-	27	517
Council Tax		1,455	-	1,455	674
Utilities: Electricity, Gas and Water		7,999	-	7,999	7,895
Insurance		3,362	-	3,362	3,068
Repairs and Maintenance		15,925	-	15,925	30,822
Telecoms & Office Expense		1,968	-	1,968	3,619
Postage & Delivery		44	-	44	8
Travel and Meetings	Note 5	308	-	308	322
Motion Picture Licence		1,719	-	1,719	1,597
Training		350	-	350	-
Professional fees		1,991	-	1,991	-
Equipment		10,105	-	10,105	-
Other outgoings - AGM etc		702	-	702	1,333
		136,580	-	136,580	178,683
Grants and donations made					
Grants and donations		9,522	3,500	13,022	3,834
Jack Petchey awards	Note 3	-	9,000	9,000	6,060
		9,522	12,500	22,022	9,894
Trading expenditure					
Scout Shop purchases		29,796	-	29,796	28,876
Wilberforce		616	-	616	11,695
Equipment purchased		-	-	-	1,280
		30,412	-	30,412	41,851
Bank charges					
Bank service charges		154	-	154	186
Zettle card fees		578	-	578	508
		732	-	732	694
Total expenditure on activities		349,341	12,500	361,841	371,315
Loans made					
3rd St. Paul's Cray	Note 4	-	-	-	15,000
Total payments		349,341	12,500	361,841	386,315
Net (payments)		(15,922)	(6,800)	(22,722)	(58,580)
Cash funds held as at 31 January 2025		479,984	13,869	493,853	
Cash funds held as at 31 January 2026		463,272	7,069	471,131	

		Saturday, 31st January 2026			Friday, 31 January 2025
		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Total Funds £
Cash Funds					
Current Accounts		162,499	7,069	169,568	194,585
Deposit Accounts		300,279		300,279	298,975
Cash Floats		494		494	293
Total Cash funds		463,272	7,069	470,341	493,853
Other monetary assets					
Loans repayable by Groups		14,880	-	14,880	17,780
Undeposited Funds (Zettle)		790	-	790	-
		15,670	-	15,670	17,780
Non monetary assets for own use					
Badge Stock		9,875	-	9,875	5,922
Shop Stock		7,467	-	7,467	9,292
District Headquarters (Property)	Note 2	84,451	-	84,451	84,451
Wilberforce Estate (Property)	Note 2	16,901	-	16,901	16,901
		118,694	-	118,694	116,566
Net Assets		597,636	7,069	604,705	628,199

There are no liabilities at the year end.

The above receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on 24 June 2026 and signed on their behalf by



Anne-Marie Conneally
District Chair
24 June 2026



Jonathan Pownall
MA ACA CISA
District Treasurer
24 June 2026

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31st January 2026

Note 1 – Basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis. red with HMRC for Gift Aid.

Note 2 – Valuation of monetary assets

Land and buildings are stated at historic cost. The properties have not been revalued because the trustees believe that no benefit for our charitable objectives would be achieved by the expenditure involved

Note 3 - Restricted funds

	At 31/01/2025	Inflows	Outflows	Transfers	At 31/01/2026
Jack Petchey Fund	10,165	5,700	(9,000)	-	6,865
Grants: Group start-up (6th Mottingham)	3,500	-	(3,500)	-	-
Grants: Explorer / Network (Reds ESU)	204	-	-	-	204
	13,869	5,700	(12,500)	-	7,069

The Jack Petchey Foundation was set up to inspire and motivate young people across London and Essex.

The Jack Petchey Achievement Award Scheme recognises outstanding young people aged 11-25. The Reds ESU and 6th Mottingham grants represent start-up grants received from The Scout Association and held by District on their behalf.

4) Loan Repayments and outstanding amounts receivable

	At 31/01/2025	Inflows	Outflows	Transfers	At 31/01/2026
9th Orpington	1,600	(430)	-	-	1,170
9th Orpington (2nd Loan)	2,680	(670)	-	-	2,010
3rd St. Paul's Cray	13,500	(1,800)	-	-	11,700
	17,780	(2,900)	-	-	14,880

5) Trustee Expenses

During the year expenses totalling £19 were claimed by trustees for mileage and travel fares. For this purpose, expenses do not include purchases made on behalf of the charity for which a trustee has been reimbursed.

6) Reconciliation of opening and closing net asset balances

Net assets as at 31/01/2025	628,199
Less: Net payments for the year	(22,722)
Less: Loan repayments received from Groups (decreases monetary asset of loans due)	(2,900)
Add: Increase in Scout Shops closing stock balance (increases monetary asset of stock)	2,128
Net assets as at 31/01/2026	604,705

7) Presentation of membership subscriptions

Prior to 2025-26 membership subscriptions paid over to County were treated as 'agency income' and shown as a deduction from receipts.

The autumn 2025 update to POR clarified that henceforth membership fees paid to County should be shown as gross amounts under expenditure.

The prior year figures have been restated for comparability. This is a presentational change which has no effect on the net financial position.

Independent Examiner's Report

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Bromley District Scout Council

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Bromley District Scout Council for the year ended 31 January 2026.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Bromley District Scout Council 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 Bromley District Scout Council 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 Bromley District Scout Council 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

Karl Kelledy

Relevant professional qualification - FCCA

Address 4 Cecil Way, Hayes, Kent, BR2 7JU

Date

24th June 2026



