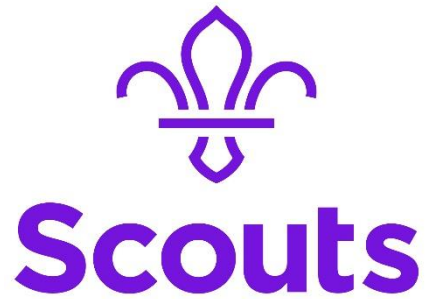


1ST BANCHORY SCOUT GROUP



**Annual Report and Receipts and Payments Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 March 2026**

Scottish Charity Number: SC034476

Trustees' Report

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name: 1st Banchory Scout Group

Registered Charity Number: SC034476

Principal Address: Scout HQ
Dee Street
Banchory
AB31 5HT

Trustees: Robbie Hay
Michael Wilson
Alan MacLeod
Ian D L Morrison
Robert Watt
John Lawson
Fiona MacDonald
Stuart Murdo
Mike Kerr
Mimi Gilmore-Maurer

Independent Examiner: Tony Bradford
9 Arbeadie Avenue
Banchory
AB31 4EL

Bankers: Virgin Money
1 Queens Cross
Aberdeen
AB15 4XU

Trustees' Report (continued)

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The Group is administered in accordance with its constitution in conjunction with the POR (Policy, Organisation and Rules) of the Scout Association.

The Group Trustee Board

The Group Trustee Board is a team of volunteers who work together, as Trustees, to make sure the Scouts is run safely and legally. At the heart of their role is a focus on strategy, performance and assurance.

Effective Trustee support helps other volunteers run the Scout programme that gives young people skills for life.

Members of the Group Trustee Board must act collectively as Charity Trustees and in the best interest of the charity and its members.

Objectives and Activities

Purpose

The 1st Banchory Scout Group 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.

We've assessed our aims, activities and charitable objectives, which are to contribute to the development of young people in achieving their full potential as individuals, as responsible citizens, and as members of their local, national and international communities. We believe that we've met the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria for both the advancement of education, and the advancement of citizenship and community development.

Organisational Structure

The Group Executive meets up to 4 times a year with powers to call additional meetings as and when thought necessary. There is a subcommittee which oversees the annual Banchory Scout Group Jumble Sale. In addition, the uniformed leaders meet when it is deemed necessary for the purposes of discussing the operational requirements of the various sections which are as follows:

- Beaver Section
- Cub Section
- Scout Section

There is also an active Explorer Section which operates on a District basis.

Trustees' Report (continued)

Summary of Main Activities in Relation to these Objects / Purpose

Group Lead Volunteer Report

On reflecting on another year of Scouting in Banchory, we have to start by thanking all the leaders who not only give up their time week by week, but also plan programmes, camps and activities to ensure that our young people get the best Scouting experiences.

At our last census in January 2026, we had 215 young people in the Group comprising 53 Beavers, 82 Cubs, 60 Scouts & 20 Explorers. This makes us one of the largest youth organisations in Banchory.

5 new leaders have joined the Group – Emily Stevenson (Thursday Beavers), James Irvine (Monday Beavers), Pamela Leighton (Thursday Beavers), Martin Johnston (Monday Beavers) & Louise Barnes rejoined (Thursday Scouts).

Kat Masterton stepped down as a Wednesday Cub Leader after 5 years as a leader.

With the most recent introduction of PVGs being required for anyone over 16 years, we had to process 2 young leader applications for Isla Murdo (Tuesday Cubs) & Logan Kerr (Friday Scouts).

As well as the activities in each section which are recorded below, a number of activities are worth noting from a Group perspective.

A community CPR event with RGU took place on Friday 27th June. This was a drop-in session from 6-8.30pm, open to parents and carers of our scouting community highlighting where the individual AEDs are located in Banchory, AED usage & CPR training on mannequins.

As required by Scouts UK, all leaders completed the New Safety Learning by 14th July 2025.

The Beavers, Cubs, Scouts & Explorers all attended the Banchory Pantomime on Thursday 4th December with Friday Scout Leader Marcus Lethaby getting the most encouragement in his role of 'Pandaman'

We received a £500 donation from the Kincardineshire Silver Jubilee Trust. The trust was established in 1977 at the time of HM The Queen's Silver Jubilee and funds were raised to establish Jubilee House as a holiday home close to Stonehaven Harbour. Due to changes over the years, the House was not being fully used and was sold last year. Using the proceeds from the sale a new Fund has been set up to be used for Youth and Community Service in the Kincardineshire area from which we received the donation.

A donation was also received via Sheila Davies, from a friend who had read of her late husband Eric Davies' love of Scouting in a book that he had written.

We held a Leader's family social event at Deeside Rugby Club went well on Saturday 28th February with attendees from all the Beavers, Cubs, Scouts & Explorer sections.

John Lawson ran another full week of archery session for all sections during w/c 23rd February.

The archway at the entrance to the Scout Hut was unsafe and therefore taken down. A replacement archway is being planned.

Trustees' Report (continued)

Summary of Main Activities in Relation to these Objects / Purpose

Group Lead Volunteer Report (continued)

Liaising with RGU was passed on from Kat Masterson to Jason Dobbs and sessions with the RGU students teaching First Aid to the Scouts were held successful w/c 27th April & w/c 4th May.

10 Scouts & 2 Leaders participated in an Ocean Youth Training sailing weekend on 1st to 3rd May.

Another fantastic jumble sale with thanks to all who helped out and in particular Martin Pritchett, Stuart Murdo, Heather Bagnall & Logan Kerr.

Our thanks go to Mike Kerr in the role of Hall Convenor for managing not just the regular hall lets but also the amazing work he is doing in planning the installation of heat pumps & solar panels.

Special thanks also go to Arlene McFarlane in her role as Waiting List Co-ordinator. Arlene continues to manage all new enquiries for young people joining the Group and all the moves between the sections from Beavers to Cubs, Cubs to Scouts & Scouts to Explorers.

We note the sad passing of Mike Robson on 1st November 2025. Born in Brazil in 1932, Mike spent most of his life in Banchory joining the Scouts aged 11. He held various positions within the 1st Banchory Group before finally retiring from active Scouting in 1988 as Deeside District Commissioner & District Chairman. In 2009, Mike was author of the book 'Scouting in Banchory: The first 100 years'. We lowered the flag at the Scout Hut on the day on Mike's funeral as a mark of respect and thanks for all Mike did for Banchory Scouting.

Scouting continues to flourish in Banchory, and we look forward to yet another year of excellent Scouting opportunities for all of the young people in our Group.

Mike Wilson
GLV, 1st Banchory Scout Group

Trustees' Report (continued)

Achievements and Performance

Monday Beavers

It's been a busy leader recruiting year this year with us currently sitting at 8 Leaders including myself, myself, Emily, Jamie, James, Martin, Sean, Elspeth and Stephen. It's been great to work a rota system and give leaders the ability to have a day off and also share the planning role more with others taking the lead on planning events.

It's my hope to pass the Leader role to another leader over the next 6 months as Jack moves to Cubs and I think about moving with him or continuing my role in Beavers, but not as Leader.

With the support of the above we can run at a full capacity of 24 Beavers and spaces are filled up immediately as they become available. We welcomed 8 new Beavers in February demonstrating the demand for Scouting services in Banchory. We have a regular attendance of about 22+ Beavers each week, which is positive to see, and we have a good mix across the 6-8 year age range giving us a great dynamic. This summer we will see 7 Beavers departing but next February we will see a much larger shift with a potential 12 moving up - one to watch in terms of the places in Cubs.

Programme wise our biggest aim for our Beavers is that they achieve the Chief Bronze award during their potential two-year full term with us. We centre our activities around having fun, learning, teamwork and as much outdoor activity as we can (weather isn't the challenge but dark nights are!).

With this we were able to award another 5 Beavers their Bronze Chief Scouts award in January before they moved onto Cubs and award a further 5 tonight at our Parent's Evening at Crathes.

Some of the Activities and Badges undertaken this year have been health & fitness week including some yoga, Archery with John (always a hit!), a mini chef day which saw Beavers making their own toasted pin wheels, Shrove Tuesday celebration and enjoying some yummy pancakes after mastering some cutting skills, Mother's Day card making. We also hosted our very first offsite trip to Aberdeen to visit the Planetarium on the private bus which was a HIT! The Beavers did fabulous and it was a great show.

Just last week we were at the Fire Station celebrating the people that provide a service in our community and they were great! The Beavers got to try on the gear and all had a chance to use the hose! We got some fantastic pictures and were able to share this on social media which they also shared on their page.

We have a new event planned tonight too which you will have seen which sees us accessing the camp site at Crathes for a fire, smores, songs, patrol tent set up and allows parents to come and watch their beaver invest, get their bronze award and generally just take part in a fun evening show casing what we do best.

Now sunlight is on our side we have several rambles planned at Scolty, Crathes and also looking forward to our annual trip to Granite Adventures for water sports and our annual pre-summer goodbye Highland Games. We might also think to extend this to Thursday night Beavers and host some sort of competition.

Trustees' Report (continued)

Achievements and Performance

Monday Beavers (continued)

We haven't yet hosted a sleepover but currently in discussions with TNB about availability and a mutual date. I am currently the only Beaver leader with a permit so look to get others permits before my departure. A very active year for MNB with plenty planned this coming year to keep us busy, invigorated and fun!

Cat Newman
Section Team Leader, Monday Beavers

Thursday Beavers

As of May 2026, we have 22 Beavers with a solid attendance record and four leaders. We anticipate a shortage of leaders in the coming year as some plan to move up to Cubs with their children. We are keen to recruit some regular parent helpers, to enable us to plan more outdoor/adventurous activities and to encourage would-be leaders. We have reached out to our current parents to invite any who may be interested to obtain a PVG for Scouts.

Our general approach at Thursday Beavers is to cover 1-2 Challenge badges and 1-2 Activity/Staged badges per term, to give all Beavers a chance to gain their Bronze Award during their time with us. We focus on the Outdoors and Adventure Challenge badges in the summer months. Beavers are also invited to let us know of any hobbies or home activities that may count towards badges. At least five Beavers will receive their Bronze Award at this year's AGM.

Highlights from the past year include: Working on the Wee Forest with Deeside Climate Action Network, tent pitching for a rainy day indoor 'campsite', orienteering in the park, grass sledging and geocaching at Crathes, making our own cave paints and fossils for the 'History Comes Alive' blanket badge, making Christmas cards for children in Ukraine, learning first aid with the RGU paramedics, making bird feeders, testing paper planes for the Air Activities badge, making pancakes, pizza and campfire food for the Cook's badge, archery, den-building and learning to use a flint and steel.

Pamela Leighton
Section Team Leader, Thursday Beavers

Tuesday Cubs

We have currently 24 Cubs 4 full time Leaders and one young Leader. We do have room for more, but we don't have enough full time warranted leaders to accept more. We do have 1 part time leader but he works shifts so can't manage every week which makes things challenging some weeks.

We have had a busy and packed 2025-2026 if at time challenging with lack of leaders and parent helpers.

Highlights from 2025 - 2026 so far. Countryside Code - Burnett Park; Naturalist Badge; Fire lighting; Navigation; Steam Engine Demo; RGU Rock-wall Climbing; Scolty night hike; Disability Awareness Badge; RGU Paramedics; Home Safety Badge; Den Building; Foot Golf – Torphins; Bristow Helicopters Aberdeen Airport & Local Knowledge Badge with guest speaker.

Derek Webster
Section Team Leader, Tuesday Cubs

Trustees' Report (continued)

Achievements and Performance

Wednesday Cubs

The Wednesday Cubs continue to have great attendance at weekly meetings and also for special events.

Over the past year, we have arranged for our Cubs to attend the Banchory Town Hall Christmas pantomime, take part in an outdoor camp at Templars Park, water sports with Granite Adventures; learned to tie knots and to light fires, practise archery (Special thanks to John Lawson), host the RGU Trainee Paramedics & help to maintain the Banchory Mountain Bike Trails.

We regularly go for hikes, enjoying Scolty and outdoor sessions exploring Banchory and playing games at the park.

At the time of writing, we have a number of sessions planned for the remainder of this semester, including; fishing, geocaching, section bike ride & Cub Camp at Templars.

The Cubs were proud to take part in the Remembrance Day parade in November. In December, Wednesday Cubs collected donations and made-up Christmas gifts and food hampers for Home Start.

We continue to strive to help ensure every cub moving up to scouts has achieved the requirements for the Silver award, through in person activities and at home challenges.

1st Banchory Wednesday Cubs continue to have a strong social media presence (with photo permission from parents) which is used to share the amazing work the children do. We also have good and regular communication with parents which we always appreciate.

We are looking forward to another successful and fun year.

Damian O'Brien
Section Team Leader, Wednesday Cubs

Friday Cubs

Currently our Pack is running at 26 members throughout the age range, including both boys and girls.

We wish to thank Andy Mackay, who recently stood down, for his services over the past 3 years and at the same time welcome Nigel Money who joined our team earlier this year.

We have had a fairly busy year which has included Pack visits to our local Police station, various local historical sites including 'Gallows Hill', Loch of Leys, the Cemetery and the East Church to hear about the origins of St. Ternan. We have also taken part in several activities on Scolty.

We have undertaken three indoor 'sleepovers' during the cold winter months and are planning a couple of 'Greenfield' camps now that the warmer weather is approaching.

Along with the rest of our Group, we took part in the annual Remembrance Parade and the Cubs all enjoyed marching through Banchory behind the Pipe Band! Again, with the Group our Pack attended our local Christmas Pantomime which everyone thoroughly enjoyed.

Trustees' Report (continued)

Achievements and Performance

Friday Cubs (continued)

At the request of Bellfield Care Home, Friday Cubs spent an evening there singing Christmas Carols and entertaining the residents. It was a very successful evening, and we have been 're-booked' for Christmas 2026!

Our Cubs have all achieved numerous Activity and Staged badges over the past year and seven Cubs have successfully achieved their Chief Scout Silver Awards. Well done to them for all their effort and hard work.

In May this year our Pack took part in our annual Sponsored Hike around Loch Muick to raise funds for worthy projects with our South African Scouting friends in Kwa Zulu Natal. Last year we raised the incredible sum of £1,700 which was transferred to South Africa. We are still collecting this years' sponsorships.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents who have helped us at Friday Cubs over the past year.

Ron Nairn
Section Team Leader, Friday Cubs

Monday Scouts

We started off the 2025 – 2026 term welcoming in new Scouts with a DIY challenge to a Bird Houses over a few weeks in which the Scouts learnt skills in using measuring tapes, saws, hammers, and a drill, at the end they all had a bird house to take home, a fantastic achievement for the Scouts to start or continue their progress towards the badges required to achieve the Chief Scout's Gold award.

In the Autumn term we had the Scouts out and about learning skills for life through:

- A hike up the Hill of Fare,
- Learning about environmental issues,
- Navigating Corsee Woods
- Took part in the Remembrance Day Parade,
- Penknife skills,
- A night of cooking,
- First Aid skills with RGU Paramedic Students.
- And our yearly attendance at the Banchory Christmas Panto

The Scouts also enjoyed a joint weekend camp at Sir Arthur Grant Centre in September, during which they hiked up Bennachie, back at camp the older Scouts demonstrated their leadership skills by teaching the younger Scouts to put up Patrol Tents and Prepare and Cook meals.

We continued our joint activities with a Christmas Campfire singalong at Templars Park.

Trustees' Report (continued)

Achievements and Performance

Monday Scouts (continued)

Through the winter term we ran our evenings in and outside (once the snow allowed us) of the Scout Hut getting the Scouts outside whenever possible with various activities including:

- Taskmaster Challenges.
- Glow in the Dark Wide Games
- Pancake Night
- Archery
- Navigation Challenge across Banchory
- Jumble Sale Collection
- Volunteering with NTS at Crathes clearing trees

As we moved into the summer our programme continues to build on the activities we have been doing throughout the year, and we are looking forward to a visit from Aberdeen Beekeepers and a joint camp at Invertrossachs!

Graham Bird
Section Team Leader, Monday Scouts

Thursday Scouts

Thursday scouts continue to progress with twenty youth members and four leaders. We have had three Scouts go up to Explorers with a couple more due to transfer shortly. We were very pleased to welcome former Beaver leader Louise Barnes to the Scout section. Like Michael Corleone, just when she thought she was out, they pull her back in... We are all very pleased Louise has joined bringing new ideas and enthusiasm to Thursdays.

We finished the summer term last year with plenty of outdoor activities including a Parkour session at the Movement Bothy, kayaking at Aboyne, mountain biking at the new Banchory trails and ending the term with paintball taking on friendly rivals from Monday and Friday scouts.

A highlight of the summer term was the group camp at Brodie Castle near Forres. We enjoyed canyoning with some nerve-wracking jumps and sliding down waterfalls and also visited the Culloden battlefield for some sword fighting practice. Thanks to Mike for organising that event.

In the autumn term we managed another camp near Pitfichie at the refurbished Sir Arthur Grant Centre. The group enjoyed a hike on Bennachie and practised cooking in Patrols. The short days after the clocks went back allowed us to practice navigation and hiking at night and we focused on some traditional Scout skills like fire lighting. At Christmas we enjoyed the campfire and singing at Templars.

In the spring we have been working on the Forester, DIY and Athletics badges as well as some of the harder Challenge badges like the World Challenge. Some of our older Scouts have been sailing with the Ocean Youth Trust on the Clyde.

Looking forward to the summer we're planning activities to build on the skills developed this year and have some fun in the outdoors.

John Kennedy
Section Team Leader, Thursday Scout

Trustees' Report (continued)

Achievements and Performance

Friday Scouts

The autumn - winter term focused on teamwork and new skills. This included assembling the 1950s Trek Cart; Basketball coaching; a hike to Crathes; cooking vegetable pasta in our MasterChef competition: Know your Knots, Fire building; a trip to the RGU Climbing Wall; an overnight camp at Braemar; Patrol Shields; a visit from the RGU Paramedics. The Scouts also took part in the Remembrance Day Parade and attended the Banchory Pantomime. The term finished off with a Family Christmas Campfire at Templars.

The joint autumn camp with all 3 Scout Troops was held at the Sir Arthur Grant Residential Centre at Monymusk from 12th to 14th September. Fordell Firs from 4th-6th October. 24 Scouts attended with activities including a hike around Bennachie an array of Scout camping skills covering hygiene, tents, cooking, axe and saws, fires; a wide game and a campfire.

Our Winter- Spring programme tackled the Creative Challenge badge which included Tin Foil Sculptures; making bird boxes; K'Nex models; learning about Internet Safety; Chinese New Year Making Art; Juggling; making Peppermint Creams and a Night hike up Scolty. The Scouts also enjoyed another Archery session courtesy of John Lawson and our Family Burns Night gave the Scouts an opportunity to take to the stage with music and poetry.

Highlights so far in our Spring-Summer term have included Fire lighting; Jumble Sale Collecting; Swimming badge; a recycling night; First Aid with RGU Paramedics a cycling trip around Blackhall forest; Map & Compass; Orienteering at Crathes & a visit to Goval farm. We are looking forward to Raft building at Knockburn and the end of term paintballing.

The joint spring camp with all 3 Scout Troops was held at Invertrossachs Scout Centre from 12th to 14th June. Activities included Canoeing, Bell Boats, McTraitors Challenge, Swimming, Backwoods Cooking, Blind Rope Trail & a Campfire.

With thanks to our team of leaders Jason Dobbs, Efe Obaro, Marcus Lethaby, Andy Gabbott & Logan Kerr as a young leader who make the magic happen!

Mike Wilson
Section Team Leader, Friday Scouts

Banchory Moosehunter Explorers

Banchory Moosehunters have gone through a big change of numbers with 80% of our membership moving on to University and other things at the end of the 2025 academic year. This has provided opportunities for others and we now have 11 Explorers in the Unit with a virtually even split of girls and boys.

We are light on Leadership and would welcome additional support with just Martin Pritchett and Neil Murray running the unit.

We have enjoyed an Expedition camp and hike to Charr Bothy and searched for airplane wrecks. We have also had a Bivvi night in Scolty Woods, several cooking nights, and several Orienteering and navigation events.

Trustees' Report (continued)

Achievements and Performance

Banchory Moosehunter Explorers (continued)

We have put forward a patrol for the Blair Atholl Jamborette and held a training camp and several other training events for that. Blair Atholl is a major bi-annual camp with patrols from all over Scotland each partnered with an International patrol. The camp will take place in July 2026.

Banchory Moosehunters continue to support Duke of Edinburgh through Scouting, and we currently have 8 Explorers signed up for Bronze. The Bronze Expedition will take place at the beginning of June.

Our aim is to continue to blend traditional Scouting skills and activities with a relevant contemporary focus. We welcome input, ideas and support.

Martin Pritchett & Neil Murray
Section Team Leaders, Deeside Moosehunters Explorer Unit

Trustees' Report (continued)

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Awards for 2025/2026

The Baloo Trophy

This trophy was presented to the Cubs in 1972 by the Late Margaret Beddie on behalf of her son Kenneth, a cub leader for many years. The trophy is for Cubs who are 'always doing their best'.

Tuesday Cubs - Holly Tartaglia

Wednesday Cubs – Lewis Gray

Friday Cubs - Gregor Money

The Eagle Trophy

There is no history for this trophy to hand, but it is presented for cubs who demonstrate Cub spirit.

Tuesday Cubs – Jessica Legg

Wednesday Cubs – James Morrison & Fergus Barnes

Friday Cubs - James Towns & Liliana Kluz

Philmont Shield

The shield incorporates a tile brought back from the Philmont Scout Reserve, New Mexico in 1979 by Banchory Scouts, Moray Armstrong and Philip Holmes who were part of the Scout contingent to the World Jamboree. The tile features the cattle brand used on the Reserve and was presented to Mr Stanley J Maxton (GSL 1973-1980). Mr Maxton presented the shield to the group, and it is awarded to Scouts who have showed improvement and developed their leadership qualities over their times in Scouts.

Monday Scouts - Maisie MacLeod

Thursday Scouts - Haris Kinnaird

Friday Scouts – Sasha Thomesen

The Diamond Jubilee Shield

The shield was presented by Banchory Town Council in 1972 to mark the '60 years of Scouting in Banchory' celebrations in May 1972. The shield is awarded to the Scouts who have made the most progress in their first year of Scouting.

Monday Scouts - Cameron Howitt

Thursday Scouts - Stanley Thrower

Friday Scouts – Angus Morrison

The Gordon Trophy

The Capercaillie Claw on a base is awarded for the Inter-patrol competition and was presented to the Troop by the late A W Gordon of Banff.

Monday Scouts – Falcons: Ewan McDonald (PL), Oscar Broadhead (APL), Cameron Howitt, Jamie Burnett & Brodie Mackay

Thursday Scouts – Wolves: Angus Munro, Luke Priest, Rowan Barnes & Naomi Obaro

Friday Scouts – Tigers: Jack Rose (PL), Jacob Dobbs (APL), Andrew Stauble, Pia Knight, Edmund McNamee & Archie Ryan

Trustees' Report (continued)

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Awards for 2025/2026 (continued)

Anderson Taylor Award 2025

This award dates back to the 1970s when local farmer, Anderson Taylor, gave the Scouts some money after a good day at the mart and asked us to "teach the loons something about farming". Each year, the Scouts visit a local farm and there is a framed award for the Scout who does the best in a quiz about the farm after our visit.

In 2025, we visited South Auchronie Farm in Skene, Westhill kindly hosted by John & Dianne Youngson.

The winner of the award in 2025 was Harry Spencer.

Chief Scouts Awards

Bronze Awards (Beavers)

This is the highest award a Beaver can earn. To earn it, they need complete all of the challenge awards, as well as any four activity badges of their choice.

Jack Newman (already presented)
Nico Mitchell (already presented)
Theo Annand (already presented)
Finn Belliveau (already presented)
Scott Pearston (already presented)
Alfie Hutchison
Saoirse Ellison
Callum Farrow
Anna Leighton
Reuben Jones

Silver Awards (Cubs)

This is the highest award a Cub can earn. To complete it, they need to earn six Activity or Staged Activity Badges of their choice, as well as all seven of the Challenge Awards.

Theodore Langford
Jamie Farrow
Archie Ryan
Brodie Mackay
Nico Hastings
Fraser Longhurst
Gregor Money

Trustees' Report (continued)

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Awards for 2025/2026 (continued)

Chief Scouts Awards (continued)

Gold Awards (Scouts)

This is the highest award a Scout can earn. To complete it, they need to complete all nine of the Challenge Awards, plus six Activity badges.

Patrick Kennedy
Angus Munro
Ruaridh Tennant
Aiden Delamere-Wright
Jacob Dobbs
Jay Gabbott
Sam Greenhowe
Callum Masterson
Jack Rose
Matthew Sorrentino
Cameron Stauble
Sahsa Thomesen

Chief Scout's Diamond Award (Explorers)

The Chief Scout's Diamond Award is the highest of the Chief Scout's Awards, and the final step before the King's Scout Award.

Logan Kerr

Scouts of the World Award

This award recognises a member of the Scout Movement that has taken action on an issue that they care about relating to peace, the environment or sustainability and that they've made a difference in their local, national and international communities.

Alice Main

Explorer Belt

The Explorer Belt is one of the highest and most prestigious international awards in Scouting. Designed for Explorer Scouts aged 16 and over and Scout Network members, it challenges participants to undertake a 10-day international expedition in a foreign country, immersing them in the local culture, customs, and way of life.

Logan Kerr

Congratulations to all our award winners.

Trustees' Report (continued)

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Chairperson's Report

It gives me great pleasure to present this year's Chairman's Report for the 1st Banchory Scout Group.

Over the past year, our Group has continued to thrive, providing fun, friendship, challenge and adventure for young people across all of our sections — Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers. It is wonderful to see so many young people actively involved, developing new skills, building confidence and enjoying the opportunities that Scouting provides.

A tremendous amount of work goes on behind the scenes to make this possible, and I would like to express my sincere thanks to all of our volunteer leaders and section assistants. Their enthusiasm, commitment and countless hours of preparation ensure that weekly meetings, camps, activities and events continue to run successfully throughout the year. The experiences they provide for our young people are invaluable and very much appreciated by the Group and the wider community.

Our popularity continues to grow, and we currently have a waiting list across several sections. While this is encouraging and reflects the strength of the Group, it also highlights the need for additional volunteer leaders and helpers. We would warmly welcome anyone who may be interested in getting involved, whether on a regular basis or by helping occasionally. More volunteers would allow us to support more young people and continue to expand the opportunities available within the Group.

Fundraising remains essential to maintaining and developing the activities and facilities we provide. Our annual jumble sale continues to be our biggest fundraising event and contributes a significant proportion of the Group's income each year. I would like to thank everyone who donates items, helps with organising, sorting, setting up, serving refreshments and clearing away afterwards. The success of this event depends entirely on volunteers, and we are always looking for additional helpers to support the smooth running of the sale.

I would also like to thank all members of the Trustee Board for their continued support, guidance and hard work throughout the year. The time and expertise they contribute behind the scenes play an essential role in ensuring the Group remains well managed, financially secure and able to continue serving the young people of Banchory.

The upkeep and maintenance of the Scout Hut remains an ongoing priority. We are continually looking at ways to improve the building and reduce running costs where possible. As part of this, we are currently exploring the potential installation of solar panels and battery storage systems to help reduce electricity consumption and improve the long-term sustainability of the hut.

Finally, I would like to thank all parents, carers, supporters and members of the local community who continue to support the 1st Banchory Scout Group. Your encouragement and assistance are greatly appreciated and help ensure the continued success of the Group.

I look forward to another successful year ahead for Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers.

Yours in Scouting,
Robbie Hay

Trustees' Report (continued)

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Financial Review

Total income for the group was £56,614 which represents a 1% increase on the £56,184 achieved last year.

The principal source of income for the charity is donations which decreased 5% to £30,531. Fundraising increased by 7% to £20,167. Mike Kerr continues to do a fantastic job in managing the Hall Hire with income increasing to £3,451, a 7% increase.

Total costs decreased by 21% to £54,687. The main changes were:

- 1) Electricity costs decreased to £7,141. This is still a significant sum and I would urge you all to bear in mind usage of the hall heaters in order to continue to manage the consumption. We are delighted to confirm that we have managed to secure a new 5 year contract which should see us achieve savings of over 15% so long as we do not increase our consumption. This saving is worth around £1,000 per annum to the group.
- 2) Repairs decreased by £3,790 to £3,242. No major repairs carried out in the year with the bulk of the costs related to the planning and building warrant fees for the energy efficiency upgrades to the hall.

Overall we had a small surplus during the year of £1,928 which is around 3% of income. I would like to try and get this closer to 5% of income, around £3,000, in order for us to put money aside for any ongoing repairs and hall maintenance in the coming years.

Our largest cost each year is the fees that we have to pay to Scout Central and District. In 2026 these fees are now £53.50 per member which reflects a 4% increase on last year and a 20% increase since 2024 (2025: £51.50 ; 2024: £44.50 ; 2023: £44.50).

We are in the very fortunate position to have a fantastic set of volunteers who come together each year to manage the jumble sale. The profit made from this event enables us to subsidise the cost of each child to the tune of around £100 each year. The 2026 sale was once again a great success with net proceeds in excess of £17,000 being achieved.

As in previous years we have targeted only increasing subscriptions where we have been passed an increase by Scout Central / District. Therefore, with the latest increase in fees and need to increase slightly the overall reserves of the group, the annual fees will increase from £140 to £144 per annum. Therefore, quarterly term fees will increase by £1 to £36 a quarter. Fees for the children of Leaders will increase by £2 per annum to £53.50, or £26.75 per payment.

I thank all of you who have been able to sign up for Gift Aid. It is making a real difference to the group. In the last year we have been able to catch up on historical claims and reclaim £6,430. I recently submitted the claim for October 2025 to March 2026 and there has been a marked increase in the number of sign ups. Moving forward we should therefore be able to collect around £5,000 per annum just from gift aid. So if you haven't already, please consider signing up as it makes a real difference.

Trustees' Report (continued)

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Financial Review (continued)

Reserves Policy

It is the Trustees policy to hold reserves of approximately six months expenditure. At the year end the group held unrestricted funds of £33,533 (2025: £31,605). £23,744 of this total is designated to property repairs should any major repairs be required. The remaining balance of £9,789 represents about 2 months expenditure.

We will continue to make efforts to increase our overall reserves to boost the resilience of the group.

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

| | | |
|-------------------|--|---|
| Signatures |  |  |
| Full name | Alan MacLeod | Michael George Wilson |
| Position | Treasurer | Group Lead Volunteer |
| Date | 10 June 2026 | 10 June 2026 |

Trustees' Report (continued)

Trustees' Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in Scotland requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which show a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Observe the method and principles in the applicable Charities SORP.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operational existence.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information on the congregation's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf,

Signed by:



A6D5943705424B5...

Alan MacLeod, Treasurer

10 June 2026

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of 1st Banchory Scout Group

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2026 which are set out on pages 20 to 24.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) 2005 Act and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

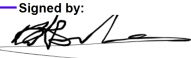
In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have not been met, or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signature:

Signed by:

20E48D800FAB4CA...

Name:

Tony Bradford

Relevant Professional qualification / professional body:

CIMA

Address:

9 Arbeadie Avenue, Banchory, Kincardineshire, AB31 4EL

Date:

10 June 2026

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|-------------------|------|-----|----|-----------------|--------------|--|--|
|  | Enter charity name below | | | | | | Enter SC No. | | |
| | 1st Banchory Scout Group | | | | | | SC034476 | | |
| | Receipts and payments accounts | | | | | | | | |
| | For the period from | Period start date | | | to | Period end date | | | |
| Day | | Month | Year | Day | | Month | Year | | |
| 01 | | April | 2025 | 31 | | March | 2026 | | |

Section A Statement of receipts and payments

| | Unrestricted funds | Restricted funds | Expendable endowment funds | Permanent endowment funds | Total funds current period | Total funds last period |
|---|--------------------|------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| | to nearest £ | to nearest £ | to nearest £ | to nearest £ | to nearest £ | to nearest £ |
| A1 Receipts | | | | | | |
| Donations | 30,531 | - | - | - | 30,531 | 32,110 |
| Legacies | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Grants | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Receipts from fundraising activities | 20,167 | - | - | - | 20,167 | 18,805 |
| Gross trading receipts | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Income from investments other than land and buildings | 464 | - | - | - | 464 | 375 |
| Rents from land & buildings | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Gross receipts from other charitable activities | 5,452 | - | - | - | 5,452 | 4,894 |
| | | | | | - | |
| A1 Sub total | 56,614 | - | - | - | 56,614 | 56,184 |
| A2 Receipts from asset & investment sales | | | | | | |
| Proceeds from sale of fixed assets | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Proceeds from sale of investments | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| A2 Sub total | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total receipts | 56,614 | - | - | - | 56,614 | 56,184 |
| A3 Payments | | | | | | |
| Expenses for fundraising activities | 2,664 | - | - | - | 2,664 | 2,095 |
| Gross trading payments | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Investment management costs | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Payments relating directly to charitable activities | 52,022 | - | - | - | 52,022 | 65,863 |
| Grants and donations | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Governance costs: | | | | | | |
| Audit / independent examination | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Preparation of annual accounts | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Legal costs | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | | | | | - | - |
| A3 Sub total | 54,687 | - | - | - | 54,687 | 67,958 |
| A4 Payments relating to asset and investment movements | | | | | | |
| Purchases of fixed assets | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Purchase of investments | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| A4 Sub total | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total payments | 54,687 | - | - | - | 54,687 | 67,958 |
| Net receipts / (payments) | 1,928 | - | - | - | 1,928 | (11,774) |
| A5 Transfers to / (from) funds | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Surplus / (deficit) for year | 1,928 | - | - | - | 1,928 | (11,774) |

| 1st Banchory Scout Group | | | | | | SC034476 |
|--|--------------------|------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Additional analysis (1) | | | | | | |
| Analysis of receipts and payments | | | | | | |
| 1 Donations | | | | | | |
| | Unrestricted funds | Restricted funds | Expendable endowment funds | Permanent endowment funds | Total current period | Total last period |
| | to nearest £ | to nearest £ | to nearest £ | to nearest £ | to nearest £ | to nearest £ |
| Subscriptions | 17,508 | - | - | - | 17,508 | 24,427 |
| Towards Camp Costs | 2,459 | - | - | - | 2,459 | 3,604 |
| Cairngorm National Park | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Towards Activity Costs | 2,699 | - | - | - | 2,699 | 3,514 |
| Banchory Round Table | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Tax Recovered from Gift Aid | 6,430 | - | - | - | 6,430 | - |
| Giving Force Funds | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sundry | 1,435 | - | - | - | 1,435 | 565 |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total | 30,531 | - | - | - | 30,531 | 32,110 |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2 Grants | | | | | | |
| | Unrestricted funds | Restricted funds | | | Total current period | Total last period |
| | to nearest £ | to nearest £ | | | to nearest £ | to nearest £ |
| None | | | | | - | - |
| | | | | | | |
| Total | - | - | | | - | - |
| | - | - | | | - | - |
| 3 Gross receipts from other charitable activities | | | | | | |
| | Unrestricted funds | Restricted funds | Expendable endowment funds | Permanent endowment funds | Total current period | Total last period |
| | to nearest £ | to nearest £ | to nearest £ | to nearest £ | to nearest £ | to nearest £ |
| Hall Hire | 3,451 | - | - | - | 3,451 | 3,238 |
| Equipment Hire | 300 | - | - | - | 300 | 300 |
| Fundraising for Scouts South Africa | 1,701 | - | - | - | 1,701 | 1,356 |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total | 5,452 | - | - | - | 5,452 | 4,894 |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 4 Payments relating directly to charitable activities | | | | | | |
| | Unrestricted funds | Restricted funds | Expendable endowment funds | Permanent endowment funds | Total current period | Total last period |
| | to nearest £ | to nearest £ | to nearest £ | to nearest £ | to nearest £ | to nearest £ |
| Accommodation:Cleaning & Gardening | 7,310 | - | - | - | 7,310 | 7,295 |
| Accommodation:Heat & Light | 7,141 | - | - | - | 7,141 | 14,703 |
| Accommodation:Internet & TV | 996 | - | - | - | 996 | 942 |
| Accommodation:Rates | - | - | - | - | - | 737 |
| Accommodation:Repairs & Renewals | 3,242 | - | - | - | 3,242 | 7,032 |
| Administration:Bank Charges | 121 | - | - | - | 121 | 28 |
| Administration:General Administration Expenses | 2,987 | - | - | - | 2,987 | 1,334 |
| Administration:GoCardless Charges | 893 | - | - | - | 893 | 1,151 |
| Administration:Insurance | 2,910 | - | - | - | 2,910 | 2,986 |
| Administration:OSM Charges | 351 | - | - | - | 351 | 244 |
| Capitation Fees:District Scout Council | 9,573 | - | - | - | 9,573 | 11,021 |
| Capitation Fees:Subscription Refunds | - | - | - | - | - | 31 |
| Donations Given | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Fundraising Expenses:Sundry Fundraising | 3,057 | - | - | - | 3,057 | - |
| Misc Exp:New Equipment | 285 | - | - | - | 285 | 504 |
| Programme Activities Etc:Activities | 6,530 | - | - | - | 6,530 | 6,355 |
| Programme Activities Etc:Camp Expenditure | 4,454 | - | - | - | 4,454 | 7,190 |
| Section Expenses | - | - | - | - | - | 320 |
| Section Expenses:Beaver Colony Expenses | 931 | - | - | - | 931 | 1,296 |
| Section Expenses:Cub Pack Expenses | 402 | - | - | - | 402 | 849 |
| Section Expenses:Scout Troop Expenses | 811 | - | - | - | 811 | 1,645 |
| Section Expenses:Explorer Expenses | 29 | - | - | - | 29 | - |
| Duke of Edinburgh | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Courses | - | - | - | - | - | 200 |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total | 52,022 | - | - | - | 52,022 | 65,863 |

| 1st Banchory Scout Group | | | | | SC034476 | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Additional analysis (2) | | | | | | |
| 5 Breakdown of unrestricted funds | | | | | | |
| | Unrestricted fund 1 - enter name of fund below | Unrestricted fund 2 - enter name of fund below | Unrestricted fund 3 - enter name of fund below | Unrestricted fund 4 - enter name of fund below | | |
| | General Funds | Property Repair Fund | | | Total unrestricted funds | Total unrestricted funds last period |
| Receipts | | | | | | |
| Donations | 30,531 | - | | | 30,531 | 32,110 |
| Legacies | - | - | | | - | - |
| Grants | - | - | | | - | - |
| Receipts from fundraising activities | 20,167 | - | | | 20,167 | 18,805 |
| Gross trading receipts | - | - | | | - | - |
| Income from investments other than land and buildings | 135 | 329 | | | 464 | 375 |
| Rents from land & buildings | - | - | | | - | - |
| Gross receipts from other charitable activities | 5,452 | - | | | 5,452 | 4,894 |
| Sub total | 56,285 | 329 | - | - | 56,614 | 56,184 |
| Receipts from asset & investment sales | | | | | | |
| Proceeds from sale of fixed assets | - | - | | | - | - |
| Proceeds from sale of investments | - | - | | | - | - |
| Sub total | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total receipts | 56,285 | 329 | - | - | 56,614 | 56,184 |
| Payments | | | | | | |
| Expenses for fundraising activities | 2,664 | - | | | 2,664 | 2,095 |
| Gross trading payments | - | - | | | - | - |
| Investment management costs | - | - | | | - | - |
| Payments relating directly to charitable activities | 48,815 | 3,207 | | | 52,022 | 65,863 |
| Grants and donations | - | - | | | - | - |
| Governance costs: | | | | | | |
| Audit / independent examination | - | - | | | - | - |
| Preparation of annual accounts | - | - | | | - | - |
| Legal costs | - | - | | | - | - |
| Other | - | - | | | - | - |
| Sub total | 51,479 | 3,207 | - | - | 54,687 | 67,958 |
| Payments relating to asset and investment movements | | | | | | |
| Purchases of fixed assets | - | - | | | - | - |
| Purchase of investments | - | - | | | - | - |
| Sub total | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total payments | 51,479 | 3,207 | - | - | 54,687 | 67,958 |
| Net receipts / (payments) | 4,806 | (2,878) | - | - | 1,928 | (11,774) |
| Transfers to / (from) funds | | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Surplus / (deficit) for year | 4,806 | (2,878) | - | - | 1,928 | (11,774) |
| Nature and purpose of funds | | | | | | |
| £23,744 has been designated for use as a "Property Repair Fund". These funds are unrestricted but designated for any major property repairs arising. | | | | | | |