

A young child with dark curly hair, wearing a red and blue Scouts uniform, is focused on watering a small green plant in a terracotta pot. The child is holding a large green watering can and pouring water from its spout onto the plant. The background is blurred, showing an outdoor setting. The image is framed by large, colorful abstract shapes in yellow, green, and blue.

Annual report and accounts 2023-24

Create
opportunities
for young people
to take part and
be heard.

southribblescouts.org.uk/join

#BuildingBrighterTomorrows

#SkillsForLife




Scouts
South Ribble

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Our annual report and financial statements 2023-24 #SkillsForLife

Here in South Ribble we create stronger communities and inspire positive futures with teeth-gritting, keep-on-going, summit-reaching, belly-laughing nights-every night of the week [#SkillsForLife](#)

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Playing our part

This year has been a time of transformation for our movement and our district.

Our founder, Robert Baden-Powell, always emphasised that Scouts are a Movement. They need to keep developing, changing, and growing. They will not survive if they are allowed to become static.

I became a Scout in 1967, just as the first significant changes to Scouting were being introduced following the recommendations of the Advance Party Report. This document resulted from a collaboration between prominent figures in industry and youth work and input from around 25,000 Scouts. The changes included rebranding to The Scout Association in 1967, renaming sections, and updating uniforms. Overall, the mission to become a genuinely modern organisation is ongoing.

Since the Advance Party Report in 1966, there have been many changes to Scouting, including a new logo, uniform and training programme at the start of the 21st Century.

The past year has marked the beginning of a significant initiative, 'Transformation', aimed at reorganising leadership to make volunteering more accessible, enjoyable, and rewarding. While these changes may seem daunting to some, they are undeniably beneficial for the future of Scouting. Whether you view 'Transformation' with excitement or apprehension, remember that the District Trustee Board and District Teams are here to support you in this journey.

Looking back at Scouting activities over the last year, we can see from the number of top awards given out that, as a District, we are

continuing to provide our young people with the skills they will need in the future. Bibby's Farm hosted our District Camp, and during my visit, it was great to see so many smiling faces and catch up with Leaders—I had to start refusing offers of cups of tea and coffee while thinking of the drive home!

The District Trustee Board, along with June and the District Teams, continues to work tirelessly in shaping our strategy and vision for the future. I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to all the Trustees for their invaluable contributions to our Board meetings. I also want to extend my sincere thanks to all the volunteers who, through their dedication and hard work, make Scouting a resounding success in South Ribble.



Martin Sumer
District Chair



A Year of the (Un)Expected

If 2023-24 was a year of achievement, then this was a year of the unexpected.

When I look back, this was a year of resilience and adaptability. We faced the expected, the unexpected, and so many new things that it was hard to keep track. But we didn't just keep track. We thrived in the face of adversity.

Transformation was the buzzword—and still is. After several months of preparation and anticipation, we were all set for the new world to arrive in February. This was the expected outcome, but it didn't happen. There is no doubt that the security of our online systems has to be as good as it can be to protect all our members, and it will be worth the wait.


We cannot mention last year without sparing a thought for the Jamboree Contingent. That was a tale of the UNEXPECTED. With the Headline – "UK Scouts quit South Korea World Jamboree campsite" – we all heard that the Jamboree had not gone as planned. Issues with the heat and the campsite facilities meant a change of venue. West Lancs Scouts, as part of the UK contingent, worked hard to provide accommodation and a programme that was vastly different from the original. Ensuring the safety of your young people whilst overseas and managing to help them have a fabulous experience is no mean feat. Once again, it proved that Scouting equips people with perseverance and adaptability. The young people from South Ribble made us proud.

Back in the UK, our district camp came under threat earlier in the year, but not to be daunted, we picked ourselves up, dusted ourselves off and got on with the job. In July, we had over 600 people at Bibby's Farm. The weather was fantastic, and we all had a great time, from Squirrels to Adults. Seeing some groups back at this camp, having missed previous episodes, was lovely. It means, of course, that we have to go Bigger and Bolder next time!

I commented last year on the growth in the Network. This has continued mainly due to the interesting and varied programme running throughout the section. A dedicated team of Network members brainstorms ideas and plans events, drawing in membership from all areas. They should be proud of their achievements.

Several events have been held with groups sharing facilities or events, and there are simply too many to mention. Behind the scenes, there has been a lot of work going on that no one ever really sees. We regularly review our internal systems and make changes where necessary. It is hard to itemise, but these things are happening, and it is an area that should be remembered.

Thank You to all those involved in keeping South Ribble Scouts strong and visible. Your dedication is what makes our community so special. Please continue the work that you have been doing and remember to have fun yourselves along the way. We have a fantastic and very dedicated Leadership. We have achieved so much and I am sure we will go on to do more in the future.



June Holt
District Commissioner



Our finances

South Ribble Scouts is in good financial health. We have had a good year in terms of income, with a return to the pre-covid district levy and the uptake of gift aid by some of the larger district units.

The large income against camps is mainly accounted for by District camp, but also by the multitude of camps run by the Explorer Section. There is also a considerable spend against this item and this shows that no profits are made from these endeavours overall.

The badge shop continues to produce a profit and likewise the uniform shop is now showing a profit as we have decided to cease trading. We therefore have stock which we are selling off and have minimal costs associated with this.

You will see a substantial profit in this financial year(23k), but that needs to be balanced against the extra income for this year (back claim for gift aid of 5k and donations of 2k) which are not to be repeated.

Also, there was a 15k deficit recorded last year and we anticipate the same next year.

This is due to the payment of deposits for events having to be paid in one financial year and the income and subsequent expenditure being in the following year. This is a repeated pattern over the years. Already in quarter 1 of this year we have paid out over 5k in deposits and some monies for international trips.

South Ribble is therefore in a strong position to continue to provide exciting and challenging events for the young people and to provide support for the adults alongside this.



June Holt
Interim Treasurer

Notes forming part of the accounts

Accounts for the year from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024

1. Bank charges have now been reclassified as administration costs. Prior year has been changed accordingly in these accounts

2. Pre-paid expense cards have been introduced to the Explorer Accounts. They are not all in use yet, but this has caused some confusion amongst those not used to dealing with accounts. In some areas, the expenditure has been logged on the journal system, but not in all areas.

Adjustments have therefore been made to some of the accounts to ensure that all spend is included in the accounts for the current year, leaving balances on cards similar to cash.

Our finances

The summarised statement of financial activities can be viewed below. A full version of the accounts has been approved by the Trustee Board and are available for viewing by contacting District Treasurer.

For the year from	01-Apr-23	To	31-Mar-24
Receipts and payments			
	2023-24 Unrestricted funds £	2022-23 Unrestricted funds £	
Receipts			
Donations, legacies and similar income			
Membership subscriptions	27,636	25,289	
Donations	2,092	1,022	
Legacies	-	-	
Gift Aid	5,247	-	
Training	1,119	1,572	
Sub total	36,094	27,891	
Grants			
Maintenance grant	-	-	
International	-	-	
Other grants	-	500	
Sub total	-	500	
Fundraising and Events			
DoE fees	349	621	
Camps	44,785	29,648	
Network	-	-	
Charity Collections	-	-	
Clothing and Badge Sales	28,730	27,541	
Miscellaneous	1,050	860	
Sub total	74,914	58,630	
Investment income			
Bank interest	440	50	
Sub total	440	50	
Total Gross Receipts	111,451	78,103	
Total receipts	111,451	78,103	

For the year from	01-Apr-23	To	31-Mar-24
Receipts and payments			
	2023-24 Unrestricted funds £	2022-23 Unrestricted funds £	
Payments			
International	1,680	12,300	
Administration	1,418	-	
Video license	649	-	
Insurance	1,300	-	
Marketing	601	1,376	
Network	-	-	
Training	1,933	1,140	
Rent	1,641	4,383	
DoE Fees	585	939	
Grants and Gifts	-	500	
Expenses	179	341	
Maintenance	1,223	2,798	
Equipment	1,676	2,332	
Sub total	12,973	26,109	
Development	1,109	-	
Activities and Events	3,712	589	
Camps	45,450	37,069	
Charity Collections	5	-	
Clothing and Badge Purchases	23,076	28,092	
Miscellaneous	1,239	715	
	74,580	66,465	
Total Gross Payments	87,554	92,574	
Asset and investment purchases, etc.			
Total payments	87,554	92,574	
Net payments	23,887	14,471	
Net Assets last year end	138,491	152,962	
Net Assets this year end	162,378	138,491	

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year			
	2023-24 Unrestricted funds £	2022-23 Unrestricted funds £	
Cash funds			
Bank current account	122,072	99,499	
Bank deposit account	26,907	26,476	
Card accounts	1,006	-	
Cash/Floats	306	-	
Total cash funds	150,291	125,975	
Non monetary assets for charity's own use			
Badge and Uniform Shop stock	12,088	12,515	
Sub total	12,088	12,515	
Liabilities			
Accounts not yet paid HQ Levy	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	
Total Net Assets	162,378	138,490	

The above receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on 12th June 2024 (the date of the Board of Trustees meeting that approved the accounts) and signed on their behalf by

Signature:



Martin Sumner (Chair)

June Holt (Interim Treasurer)

“

We're Scouts and everyone's welcome here. I wanted to improve things and help people. It gives me a chance to use my existing skills for the better with my fellow volunteers and with young people. I joined, because someone asked me to help and i've loved it ever since.

Paul, District Activity Team



Skills for Life

Our plan to prepare better futures 2023-2027

As Scouts, we believe in preparing young people with skills for life. We bring communities together and contribute to society. Above all, we aim to build better futures. That's why we encourage our young people to do more, learn more and be more. Each week, over 1700+ young people enjoy fun and adventure while developing the skills they need to succeed in life across South Ribble.

Our vision

By 2027, we'll have prepared more young people with skills for life, supported by amazing leaders delivering an inspiring programme.

We'll be growing, more inclusive, shared by young people and making a bigger impact in our communities.

Our mission

Scouting actively engages and supports young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

Our values

We act with care, respect, integrity, cooperation, exploring our own and others' beliefs.

Our goals

As a District, we aim to grow, become more inclusive and youth shaped, while making a positive impact in our communities

Our four pillars of work

To support the district to achieve these objectives, we will focus on four pillars of work:

Programme

A fun, enjoyable, high quality, inclusive programme, consistently delivered and supported by simple (digital) tools.

People

More, well trained, better supported and motivated adult volunteers, and more young people, from diverse backgrounds across South Ribble.

Perception

Scouts is clearly understood, more visible, trusted, respected, across South Ribble and widely seen as playing a key role in society.

Places

Good quality, affordable, accessible, equipt and practical locations are available to support our programme across South Ribble.

Governance

Our governance structure,
Board membership and Team
Structure.

1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024

Board of Trustees

District President
Cllr Karen Walton

District Vice-President
Cllr Cliff Hughes

District Commissioner
June Holt

District Chair
Martin Sumner

District Treasurer
Vacant (June Holt covered)

District Secretary
Vacant

Scout Network Commissioner
Josh Riley

Explorer Scout Commissioner
Rik Whittaker

Youth Commissioner
Oliver Gunning

Elected Executive Committee Members
Jon Nutten
Cllr Cliff Hughes
Josh Riley
Billy Martin

District Team

District Commissioner
June Holt

Deputy District Commissioner
Jon Nutten
Billy Martin
Nicola Harkness

Scout Network Commissioner
Josh Riley

Explorer Scout Commissioner
Rik Whittaker

Youth Commissioner
Oliver Gunning

ADC Beavers
Stuart Baxter
Rachel Nelmes

ADC Cubs
Alison Walsmley

ADC Scouts
Andy Taylor

ADC Activities
Paul Furnival

ADC Communications
Jon Nutten

District Explorer Scout Leader
Dan Heron (Admin)
Lee McNulty (Young Leader Programme) - (Until Nov '23)

Scout Team
Ben Jones

Cub Scout Team
Martin Watson
Steve Catterall

Beaver Scout Team

Nights Away Adviser
Billy Martin

Training Manager
Marion Yardley

Chair of Appointments Committee
Rosalyn Illingworth



South Ribble District Scouts

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Scouts
South Ribble