

FLINTSHIRE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

England & Wales · Charity number 1023503

Details

Other names DEESIDE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL, FLINTSHIRE SCOUTS

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1993-07-08

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 65 Marlston Avenue
Lache Park
Chester
CH4 8HE

Phone 01244682404

Website www.scouts.org.uk

Activities

Objects: TO PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN ACHIEVING THEIR FULL PHYSICAL,INTELLECTUAL,SOCIAL AND SPIRITUAL POTENTIALS AS INDIVIDUALS AS RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS AND AS MEMBERS OF THEIR LOCAL,NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITIES.

Activities: The aim of the Association is to promote the development of young people to achieve their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potential, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities through various activities.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** Children/young People

Geography

- Throughout Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£167,709	£165,557	-	-
2023-12-31	£59,740	£61,319	-	-
2022-12-31	£11,774	£12,816	-	-
2021-12-31	£3,300	£4,651	-	-
2020-12-31	£4,805	£9,616	-	-

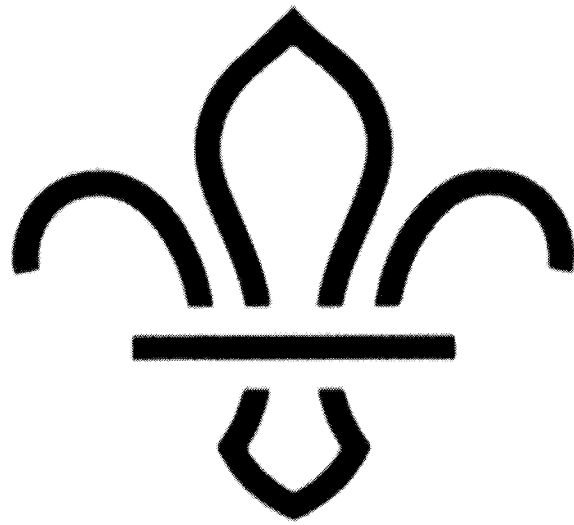
Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
David Gareth Roberts		2018-09-19
Dr Terence Gleave		2023-06-04
Eleanor Kate Loughlin		2025-10-20
Helena Mary Heaps		2019-05-22
JEREMY CHARLES SOMMERTON		
James Reynolds		2016-05-25
Lisa Susan McKenzie		2024-10-21
MIKE BOWEN		
MR ELVED GRAY-JONES		
Mared Eastwood		2024-10-21
Steven Love		2011-05-25

FLINTSHIRE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

England & Wales - Charity number 1023503

Accounts



Scouts

**FLINTSHIRE SCOUT DISTRICT
ANNUAL REPORT
2024**

Flintshire District Scout Council

Charity No: 1023503

Address: The Gladstone Centre
 Chester Road
 Hawarden
 Flintshire
 CH5 3GL

Trustees

The following acted as Trustees during the year to 31 December 2024:

Michael Bowen		Gladstone Centre warden
Laura Callaghan	To 20 May 2024	Secretary
Daniel Campbell	To 5 February 2024	District Commissioner
Mared Eastwood	From 11 December 2023	Chair
Lisa McKenzie	From 21 October 2024	Lead Volunteer
Dr Terrence Gleave		
Elved Gray – Jones		
Helena Heaps		
Alan Henshaw	To 21 October 2024	
Susan Lloyd	To 21 October 2024	
Steven Love		District Explorers Commissioner
Daniel Reynolds		Assistant Lead Volunteer
James Reynolds		
Allan Roberts	To 21 October 2024	
Gareth Roberts		Treasurer
Jerry Somerton		

Structure & Governance

The Charity is governed by the model constitution from The Scout Association's Policy, Organisation and Rules. The constitution is adopted each year.

The Scout Council is the body which has charity governance responsibility for Scouting in the Group, District or County. The Trustee Board is accountable to the Scout Council. Membership of the Scout Council does not provide membership of the Scouts. There are four categories of membership of each Scout Council:

- a. Ex officio
- b. Nominated
- c. Co-opted (only for the County Scout Council)
- d. Right of attendance

The Trustee Board is a team of volunteers who work together, as charity 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.

Membership of the Trustee Board is approved at each Annual General Meeting.

Objectives

The purpose of the District Scout Council within the structure of the Scouts is to provide leadership, advice and support for Scout Groups in an area of Flintshire.

Activities & Performance

There is a separate report that follows from the Lead Volunteer.

Flintshire Explorers continued to run seven Explorer units and a Young Leader unit with overall numbers similar to 2023. Another busy year included monthly District meetings, DofE expeditions, weekend camps and attendance at the Red Rose summer camp. The highlight of the year being the return of Gladstonbury, which was a great success.

Membership of the Target Shooting Team continued to increase. The Team competed in three events.

Use of the Gladstone Centre continues to grow. The main use continues to be for Scouting – leader training, first aid courses, target sports and Group use. But the Centre is also hired by a variety of other organisations. The increased activity has been matched by continuing improvements and maintenance. Larger projects this year include new emergency exit doors, works to comply with gas safety, fencing, extending car park area and creating a new area for tomahawk throwing.

Financial Review

The accounts for the year show a net cash inflow of £2,151.95 compared to a net cash inflow of £240.09 last year. Both receipts and payments are significantly higher as a result of the Gladstonbury event that took place this year. The increases in Explorer activities are attributable to attendance at summer camp. The Gladstone Centre continues to invest in maintaining and adding to its facilities.

Total cash funds at 31 December 2024 are £38,771.44. There are no restricted funds but the Trustees have set aside £10,516.45 in three specific funds. These specific funds are reviewed regularly and amended if considered necessary.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf:

L McKenzie
District Lead Volunteer

October 20, 2025



FLINTSHIRE SCOUT DISTRICT INCOMING DISTRICT LEAD VOLUNTEER REPORT 2023-2024

I would like to express my deep gratitude to Dan Reynolds for his invaluable support during my first year, and for his continued dedication as Deputy District Commissioner and Interim District Lead Volunteer. Dan has been a steadfast source of guidance, generously sharing his extensive knowledge and experience. His insights have been instrumental in helping me transition smoothly into this new role.

Dan's passion for Scouting and his unwavering commitment to our community set a remarkable example. His contributions have greatly enhanced our district's success, and I wish him and his group every success as he steps away from the District Lead Volunteer role to focus on supporting his group.

As we moved forward in 2024 with the Transformation and Go Live, it was a rocky time for us all transitioning, but I am pleased to say we are working well with the new system albeit a few IT bugs in the system once in a while. My first year has seen lots of high-level communication issues around safety and safeguarding within Flintshire, and this is a priority that I will continue to focus on, that said it has not allowed me to come and visit the groups as intended but I look forward to seeing you all and supporting you.

Last year I stated that during my term, I aim to continue strengthening our current groups and fostering growth across the district. My primary focus will be on increasing awareness and support in key areas such as Mental Health, Additional Needs, and Equality and Diversity. This includes providing training and resources to help our volunteers better understand and address these important topics. Our collective efforts already help create an inclusive environment where everyone feels valued and supported, regardless of background or ability. By prioritizing these areas, we hope to build an even stronger, more resilient community that thrives together. This is still the case and in the next year some developments are happening please keep your eyes and ears open.

Scouting is built on the values of integrity, respect, care, belief, and cooperation. These values guide us in developing young people and preparing them for a positive future. They teach us to be responsible citizens and empathetic leaders, committed to making the world a better place. I look forward to working together and achieving great things. Thank you to everyone who makes Flintshire Scouting truly exceptional!

Lisa Mckenzie
District Lead Volunteer

Charity No: 1023503

FLINTSHIRE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 DECEMBER 2024

FLINTSHIRE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of Flintshire District Scout Council (Charity No: 1023503) for the year ended 31st December 2024, which are set out on pages 2 to 5.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's 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 can confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting 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.

Adam Bakewell
15 Marconi House
Melbourne Street
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 2JS

September 15, 2025

FLINTSHIRE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

Year Ended 31 December 2024

	Note	2024	2023
		£	As restated £
Receipts			
Memberships and Levies - Scout Groups		46,872.00	43,182.50
Memberships and Levies - Explorers		16,620.97	15,488.97
Memberships - Target Shooting Team		2,381.00	1,270.00
District activities		2,554.06	3,069.00
Explorer activities		20,999.90	10,185.80
Duke of Edinburgh's awards		1,410.58	1,288.58
Gladstonbury		40,961.13	
Winter Ball			2,516.28
Gladstone Centre - activities & camping		25,209.25	21,122.90
Badges		4,977.61	3,537.70
Merchandise		438.50	804.00
Fundraising		1,911.24	3,167.38
Donations		894.93	160.00
Grants		1,450.00	530.00
Miscellaneous income		730.00	231.05
Compensation			35.00
Interest		298.10	249.54
Total receipts		167,709.27	106,838.70
Payments			
Memberships and Levies		46,705.50	44,650.50
District activities		4,463.39	4,075.73
Explorer activities		28,040.91	16,725.88
Duke of Edinburgh's awards		1,808.63	1,988.97
Winter Ball			4,494.78
Gladstonbury		39,579.13	510.62
Badges		3,934.99	4,175.90
Merchandise		482.70	1,058.86
Youth Online Manager		1,080.00	1,080.00
Training		1,999.00	1,506.00
Contributions		650.00	2,100.00
District expenses	1	1,271.00	611.77
Explorer expenses	2	6,838.94	2,639.90
Gladstone Centre costs	3	28,703.13	20,979.70
Total payments		165,557.32	106,598.61
Net receipts		2,151.95	240.09
Cash funds last year end		36,619.49	36,379.40
Cash funds this year end	4	38,771.44	36,619.49

FLINTSHIRE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Year Ended 31 December 2024

	As at 31 12 24	As at 31 12 23
	£	As restated £
Cash Funds	<u>38,771.44</u>	<u>36,619.49</u>
Other Monetary Assets		
Stock - badges	1,788.03	2,382.04
Debtors	2,761.03	4,292.78
Accrued income	2,300.00	
	<u>6,849.06</u>	<u>6,674.82</u>
Assets retained for own use		
Equipment - Cost	<u>8,668.56</u>	<u>7,879.20</u>
Liabilities		
Creditors	1,459.60	585.40
Accrued expenses	1,336.88	155.42
Deferred income	2,824.00	900.00
	<u>5,620.48</u>	<u>1,640.82</u>

Approved by the Trustess on September 15, 2025 and signed on their behalf:

D G Roberts -----
Treasurer

L S McKenzie -----
Lead Volunteer

FLINTSHIRE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

NOTES TO RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

Year Ended 31 December 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
1. District expenses		
Insurance	636.07	242.29
Conferences	597.86	
Postage & stationery	7.75	24.63
Travel & subsistence		58.05
Website		28.78
Awards	44.90	58.00
Licences	20.00	
Donations		184.32
Bank charges	-35.58	15.70
	<u>1,271.00</u>	<u>611.77</u>
2. Explorer expenses		
Equipment & clothing	3,725.00	
Maintenance	15.96	
Hire of premises	2,771.00	2,313.00
Heat & light		46.73
Subscriptions	76.09	
Donations		31.35
Miscellaneous	25.00	176.22
Bank charges	225.89	72.60
	<u>6,838.94</u>	<u>2,639.90</u>
3. Gladstone Centre costs		
Purchases	48.54	
Instructors	100.00	
Maintenance	12,969.90	7,842.20
Small tools & equipment	1,321.50	1,252.69
Equipment repairs and fuel	3,244.43	664.46
Water	204.00	537.42
Heat & light	3,576.21	3,481.33
Insurance	1,444.43	1,595.26
Telephone	424.99	563.20
Postage & stationery	341.60	
Computer consumables & software	12.86	267.16
Cleaning & waste disposal	2,157.83	2,606.14
Repairs		114.00
Travel & subsistence	1,837.04	1,874.09
Clothing	462.00	
Website	75.00	49.42
Miscellaneous	122.80	62.52
Donations	300.00	
Bank charges	60.00	69.81
	<u>28,703.13</u>	<u>20,979.70</u>

FLINTSHIRE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

NOTES TO RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

Year Ended 31 December 2024

4. Cash Funds - Unrestricted

	At 1 January 2024 £	Restatement of prior year £	Net receipts £	Transfers	At 31 December 2024 £
General fund	25,704.21	1,819.47	2,151.95	-1,420.64	28,254.99
Emergency fund	4,500.00			27.20	4,527.20
Grant application support fund	1,000.00			1,000.00	2,000.00
Scout representing District fund	3,116.25			873.00	3,989.25
Canoe fund	479.56			-479.56	0.00
	<u>34,800.02</u>	<u>1,819.47</u>	<u>2,151.95</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>38,771.44</u>

The figures for the previous year have been restated to reflect an Explorer Unit that was set up but not accounted for.

The figures have been restated to include:

Receipts	2,448.65
Payments	629.18
	<u>1,819.47</u>
Bank balance at 31 12 23	1,739.97
Cash balance at 31 12 23	79.50
	<u>1,819.47</u>

There are no restricted funds. The Trustees have established a number of funds for specific purposes that are reviewed regularly and amended at their discretion.

Charity No: 1023503

FLINTSHIRE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

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FLINTSHIRE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

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L S McKenzie -----
Lead Volunteer

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FLINTSHIRE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

NOTES TO RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

Year Ended 31 December 2024

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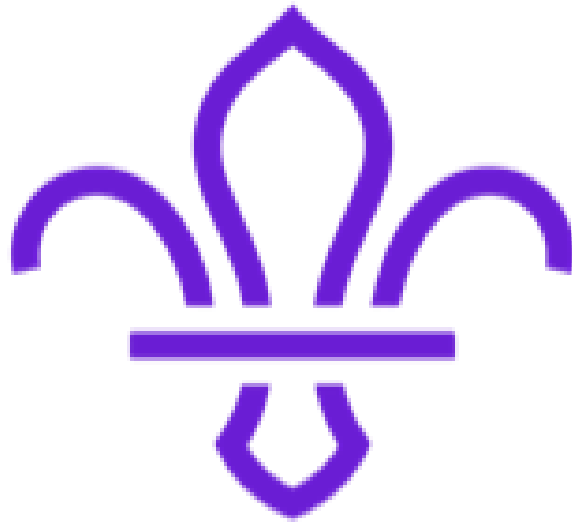
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FLINTSHIRE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

England & Wales - Charity number 1023503

Accounts



Scouts

**FLINTSHIRE SCOUT DISTRICT
ANNUAL REPORT
2023 - 2024**

Flintshire District Scout Council

Charity No: 1023503

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 Flintshire
 CH5 3GL

Trustees

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Laura Callaghan		Secretary
Daniel Campbell		District Commissioner
Dr Terrence Gleave	From 4 June 2023	
Elved Gray – Jones		
Helena Heaps		
Alan Henshaw		
Susan Lloyd		
Steven Love		District Explorers Commissioner
Daniel Reynolds		Assistant District Commissioner
James Reynolds		
Allan Roberts		
Gareth Roberts		Treasurer
Jerry Somerton		
Arnold Woolley	To 4 June 2023	Chair

Structure & Governance

The Charity is governed by the model constitution from The Scout Association's Policy, Organisation and Rules. The constitution is adopted each year.

The Scout Council is the body which has charity governance responsibility for Scouting in the Group, District or County. The Trustee Board is accountable to the Scout Council. Membership of the Scout Council does not provide membership of the Scouts. There are four categories of membership of each Scout Council:

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Membership of the Trustee Board is approved at each Annual General Meeting.

Objectives

The purpose of the District Scout Council within the structure of the Scouts is to provide leadership, advice and support for Scout Groups in an area of Flintshire.

Activities & Performance

There are ten individual reports that follow which outline the Charity's activities and achievements.

Financial Review

Cash funds at 31 December 2023 are £34,800 after incurring net payments of £1,579 during 2023. Of this £25,704 is held as unrestricted funds.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf:

D I Reynolds

October 21, 2024



FLINTSHIRE SCOUT DISTRICT CHAIR'S REPORT FOR 2023-2024

As the new Chair for Flintshire District Scouts, I would like to begin my report with thanks to all the Board members for the welcome and support they have given me. I would also like to extend my thanks to the retiring Chair, Arnold Woolley, for his service and hard work during his term of office, big shoes to fill indeed.

Whilst Covid-19 has been less of an issue this year, there has been an element of change in the Scouting movement with the introduction of Transformation. I am assured that the new system is much easier to use and far more intuitive, and I thank the Transformation team for all their effort and commitment to implementing this change smoothly.

I feel that the Trustee structure is working well, with clear governance guidelines for us to follow and action plans with which to monitor progress. It has been incredibly useful to me to have a comprehensive overview of the issues to be discussed and addressed at each meeting.

My thanks also go to Gareth Roberts, our District Treasurer, who has had the unenviable task of checking the accounts from all the units this year, working through a myriad of different formats, in order for us to achieve financial compliance. I hope the task becomes more streamlined for him going forward, as standard templates are developed.

District Commissioner Dan Campbell and Laura Callaghan have stepped back from their roles this year and Sue Lloyd has advised she will also be stepping back as Trustee when our numbers are reduced to 12. I wish them all the best and thank them their service, the hours they have spent and the contributions they each have made to Flintshire District Scouts.

Our numbers continue to grow, rising to 867 this year – a testament to the positive experiences and activities our units continue to offer our children and young people. I'm very proud to have joined you as Chair and thank everybody involved, in all the units, for volunteering and making Scouting available to so many. Diolch o galon

Mared Eastwood
District Chair



FLINTSHIRE SCOUT DISTRICT

DISTRICT LEAD VOLUNTEERS REPORT 2022-2023

As I reflect on my fifth year as Deputy District Commissioner (and interim District Commissioner / Lead Volunteer) I am reminded of the powerful ethos that binds us. That of the promise we make when we join this incredible community that is Scouting. We pledge to **“do our best”** and **“help other people.”** These simple words carry profound meaning, shaping our actions, our bonds, and our shared purpose.

Last year we saw a renewed interest nationally in Scouting and increasing membership numbers in Flintshire. All thanks to the efforts of our amazing volunteers and leaders who provide opportunities for young people to meet and enjoy safe, high-quality programmes and activities. Well done!

My DDC role changes with Transformation to 'Lead Volunteer', but it doesn't change my focus to support our existing groups in finding stability and help them to bring more adults into Scouting. This will assist more young people in the safe adventure of Scouting. Scouting in Flintshire is already recognised as being good at delivering fun and safe activities to young people. This is especially important in light of the Ben Leonard coroner's Inquest and a good reminder we must renew our efforts. We have worked hard to ensure full compliance with the mandatory adult training, which reflects that everyone puts safety at the heart of our approach. We must now turn our attention to ensuring our premises are safe, and our teams are comfortable with what is being asked of them. This will be a key focus in 2024/25.

Our position as an early adopter of the new Transformation of Scouting has put us in a strong position for the changes it brings. Our Trustee Boards are in place and our volunteer welcome meetings have begun. I would like to recognise and thank those volunteers from Flintshire working on the Transformation team benefiting the Clwyd Area. The future is positive with our District all working together to deliver the best Scouting across Flintshire. We are ambitious, but we know we have lots left to accomplish. This will require us to move fast when we can and to have patience when we cannot. But with support from everyone across Flintshire, we will succeed and deliver skills for life to a generation that need it more than ever!

Our District Commissioner Dan Campbell stepped down earlier this year and we thank him for his nearly five years of service to Scouting as DC. He leaves with our best wishes and thanks. This will always feel like a disruption when someone key to our Scouting journey decides to step away but I see it as an opportunity for new people to pick up the baton and carry on the race. The district needs new energy and new ideas and this is a healthy and natural part of our growth. And as a result, I am delighted we welcome Lisa

Francis who picks up the baton as District Lead Volunteer and wish her every success in the coming 5 years. I look forward to supporting her.

I will finish with a reflection on why I do all this. Why do I Scout? It is simple really.

Our promise. Scouting isn't just about sunny days and campfire songs. It's about weathering storms together. When life throws curveballs, we lean on one another. Our promise becomes a lifeline—a reminder that we are never alone. Whether it's celebrating achievements or supporting each other through tough times, we do it as a family.

Our growth. As a volunteer, I witness the magical—the growth of our young Scouts. It's a privilege to be part of their journey—to see them conquer fears, learn new skills, and discover their potential. And here's the secret: Their growth inspires me just as much. Scouting isn't a one-way street; it enriches us all.

Our teamwork. I'll admit it—I don't have all the answers. But that's where our incredible volunteer team comes in. Each member brings unique strengths, and together, we create something extraordinary. We fill in each other's gaps, lift one another up, and celebrate victories as a collective. It's in this collaboration that I find my own growth—a better version of myself.

As we look ahead, I'm filled with renewed ambition. Scouting isn't static; it's a dynamic adventure. We'll explore uncharted territories, learn from setbacks, and celebrate triumphs. Our Scouting family—each Scout, leader, and parent—will forge ahead, seeking new paths, and leaving a positive mark on the world.

So, here's to another year of campfires, knots, laughter, and memories. Let's embrace the Scouting spirit, hand in hand, and create a legacy that echoes through generations.

Yours in Scouting,
Diolch yn fawr.

Dan Reynolds
District Lead Volunteer



FLINTSHIRE SCOUT DISTRICT

DISTRICT SQUIRRELS SECTION REPORT 2023-2024

Flintshire Squirrels have continued to grow in numbers over the past year, and we now have 5 dreys, with an additional two due to start soon. We have been very busy taking part in a number of district events such as the Remembrance Day parade, St. George's Day Promise renewal ceremony and the JOTT along Rhyl promenade. Some of us were lucky enough to join in with the Beaver Damboree and gain a nights away badge, and most recently we held our very own District Squirrel Olympics - a day filled with fun and exciting activities!

Connahs Quay was our newest drey to open at the end of August this year - they have 14 Squirrels, soon to be 16 and 6 new leaders. They have recently invested their Squirrels and are enthusiastically working towards a range of badges; having taken part in a range of experiences such as cooking and treasure hunts. Bistre currently has 8 Squirrels and 3 leaders, with plans to expand after half term. They celebrated their 1-year birthday in June this year and in May, they took their adventures to the water and had a sailing experience on Llyn Brenig. Saltney Ferry has 17 Squirrels and 4 leaders, they celebrated their one-year birthday in May this year and have awarded 16 Chief Scout acorn awards! They have achieved many nights away badges, having been on 2 camps at Gladstone, 1 at a forest camp and 3 sleepovers at their hut! Penyffordd Squirrels has 16 Squirrels and 5 leaders - they have awarded 13 acorn awards and celebrated their first birthday in January this year. They have been very involved with their local community - collecting for the food bank, clearing the community garden and helping to decorate the Penyffordd village tree. Mynydd Isa has 18 Squirrels and 11 leaders. They took part in the You Shape Award pilot scheme earlier on this year - being one of the first dreys in the country to achieve this. They had their first sleepover at the hut and also worked towards their community impact badge.

We plan to organise more district events together over the coming year and overall, Flintshire Squirrels are going from strength to strength - proving once again that our youngest members of Scouting are very much capable of gaining #Skillsforlife!

Charlotte Venables

Assistant District Commissioner Squirrels



FLINTSHIRE SCOUT DISTRICT

DISTRICT BEAVER SECTION REPORT 2023-2024

Numbers are up again with nearly all Colonies employing a waiting list ensuring that more children join the Scouting family as soon as they're able to do so. In addition, several groups have welcomed new adults into roles as both Team Leaders and team members.

As a District Team we have been encouraging more Leaders to get involved in activities as per the new setup and have welcomed several new faces to planning meetings.

Since the last AGM we took three coaches of Beavers and Squirrels to Gelli Gyffwrdd (Greenwood Forest Park) near Llanberis where we ran around learning about the environment, watching a magic show and going on rides, all contributing towards Challenge badges. Beavers took part in Jambowlree as a District team in October earning a new blanket badge and certificate.

June brought about the biennial Damboree which, again, was a complete success. Ninety-seven Beavers and Squirrels took part in a weekend of Superhero themed activities which also encompassed the Damboree criteria as well as new Scouting skills. Our thanks go to the plethora of Explorer Scouts who gave up their weekend to help.

We have our Halloween Campfire coming up this week here at Gladstone where we are looking forward to welcoming the Beavers to another District event.

As usual, we have a few events in the pipeline for next year starting to materialise and we look forward to sharing them with you at next years AGM.

Diolch

Rhian Roberts

Assistant District Commissioner Beavers



FLINTSHIRE SCOUT DISTRICT

DISTRICT CUBS SECTION REPORT 2023-2024

The second half of last year was a bit different as I prepared to hand over the role of ADC to Sara-Beth who took over on the 24th Nov '23 with the last event of the calendar year being her first event as ADC.

My first event for the District Cub sections was a first for me. Four Cub groups consisting of sixty Cubs attending a 'Movie Night'. The Cubs dressed up in their Christmas jumpers or onesies and brought pillows, sleeping bags and blankets and enjoyed a slumber party whilst watching the movie 'A Boy Called Christmas'. The feedback from the Cubs was that they would like to do this again in the future and when asked in the Feb '24 district meeting those leaders that attended gave good feedback as well. The annual District Cub Quiz on the 18th April was also a hit, with Leaders and YLs taking part and with some friendly rivalry going on! 1st prize went to Cubs from Flint, with 2nd place to Mynydd Isa, and 3rd to Kinnerton.

When I took over I really wanted to get to know all of our Leaders and to be a support for those that wanted it. I will continue to visit groups and meet the teams, especially to those that don't often get to district events. I have made my first three visits and had the pleasure of going to Buckley St Matthews for their Valentine's Nights back in Feb. I also visited Saltney Ferry for their athletics night, and Treffynon Cyntaf for a First Aid session. It was lovely to have been welcomed so warmly and to meet leaders I didn't know and or that are new.

Starting of this new reporting year was a fun day for the Cubs at the end of September. Where we had a day packed with bases followed by some hotdogs and a campfire. I can't thank all the District Leaders enough when we get the support that we do! It can't be done on your own; but as a Scouting family. We have a 'Halloween' Campfire at the end of October and Movie night in November. And 2025 we hope to run a swimming event and the quiz. These activities can only happen with the help of our awesome leaders and volunteers in Flintshire Cubs team.

Diolch yn fawr.

Janet Joynson-Crosby & Sara-Beth Winter
Assistant District Commissioner Cubs

SCOUTS

FLINTSHIRE SCOUT DISTRICT

DISTRICT SCOUT SECTION REPORT 2023-2024

This year has seen all troops running exceptional programs with activities ranging from water sports, target sports, climbing, walking, biking and many more and covering all the aspects of the 10-14 yrs. Badge work program.

As ADC I have been supporting the groups helping where requested and helping young leadership teams develop their skills and program in the coming months we will be meeting to discuss the upcoming year's activities following this year's successful district hike we hope to expand our district activities ideas include quizzes first aid competition survival skills camp which the groups will bring in expertise in their own areas and allow groups to fill gaps they may feel they have.

Thank you,

Michael Bailey

Assistant District Commissioner Scouts

EXPLORERS

FLINTSHIRE SCOUT DISTRICT

DISTRICT EXPLORER SECTION REPORT 2023-2024

It is brilliant to be able to report that yet again, 2023 saw another year of growth for Flintshire Explorers – with more young people of Explorer age taking part than at any time since the section was launched 20 years ago.

We have remained consistent at seven Explorer units, and one Young Leader unit, all of which have continued to go from strength to strength offering a varied programme to their members which complements the wider district offering we have in terms of programme activity. We continued to meet monthly as a whole district, with each unit taking its turn to host an evening of challenging activity in our year-long challenge shield competition. As leaders, it has been brilliant to see just how successful these monthly meetings have been at fostering cross-unit friendships between the young people – its brilliant to see just how well they all integrate with each other now, compared to a couple of years ago when many explorers would barely look at someone from another unit, never mind betray their own unit and defect to another team in the competition just to be with their mates!

It has been another busy year for core programme too. From Chief Scout platinum & diamond awards, DofE expeditions, weekend camps & summer camps (including an international trip to Croatia). The district units have offered so many experiences in the last 12 months and this is all down to the hard work and dedication of the 30ish brilliant volunteers we have in the Explorer team. Last year I shared that we had begun a refreshed approach to our Young Leader programme under the leadership of Marie & Kavan. The scheme has proved so successful we have expanded; now offering our programme out to the rest of the area. We have had many young people get involved in the camps & workshops that have been provided, all aimed at improving their leadership skills and confidence. I would like to extend an extra special thanks to Marie & Kavan for their dedication to the Young leader scheme. I know how challenging providing a programme here can be – but it is critical that we offer it, as these young leaders will become the adult leaders of tomorrow.

Looking ahead to 2024, it is going to be very much more of the same. We will continue with our district monthly meetings, the district DofE expedition provision and great programmes at unit level. We have some exciting summer camps lined up including Gladstone unit who are off to Kandersteg and a planned district camp to Red Rose, and the highlight of our district calendar... Gladstonbury 2024 will return, bigger and better than ever.

All the above would not be possible without the incredible District Explorer Leadership Team, who show up week in week out to deliver such memorable experiences and engaging programmes.

On behalf of myself and the 120+ Explorers we do this for, I would like to extend a huge thank you and well done for all of your efforts... they are appreciated by all.

Steve Love
District Explorer Scout Commissioner



FLINTSHIRE SCOUT DISTRICT

SCOUT ACTIVE SUPPORT AGM REPORT 2023-2024

For several years the Scout Active Support section has allowed people to remain in Scouting, and give their time on a flexible basis, without the full-time commitment of being a Leader.

More recently we have expanded, forming Support groups to run / oversee the many District Managed, Scouting activities. These are made up of Leaders who are happy to achieve the Scouting & National Qualifications needed to run out-door activities, --- alongside running their Sections.

Normally members help out at most of the District events each year. On the second Saturday in May we join Scouts from all over the World for the Jamboree on the Trail hike, this has become our principal annual event with hundreds of Scouts and Supporters walking. After 26 years the Canadian organisation has changed, also altering the name to Trail Jam. But due to the excessive cost of the new badges, we had our own made and retained the JOTT name.

This year we walked along the Coastal Path from the Nova Centre in Prestatyn to the Eisteddfod Stepping Stones and back. We were blessed with excellent weather, and over 300 walked the route. My thanks go to Sue and Lena for all the time and effort put into organising this excellent Scouting family event.

The Scout Active Support Section is about to be closed and we all will become District Support Volunteers under the various activity headings. It will be interesting to see what provision the new 'volunteer' system makes for Leaders who have stepped away from time-consuming posts, who don't want to leave Scouting altogether, but want to still stay involved in a small way.

Jerry Sommerton
Scout Active Support Manager



FLINTSHIRE SCOUT DISTRICT

APPOINTMENT SECRETARY & LOCAL TRAINING MANAGER REPORT 2023-2024

Appointment Secretary Report:

Another busy year similar to last year! This is the last full year using the 'Appointments Advisory Committee' for new leaders 'Appointments Interviews' via WhatsApp video chat. As always, my thanks go out to the Committee's continued support throughout the year. Again, lots of new leaders including new squirrel leaders and even more new Squirrel Dreys planned to open in the coming year. We're also looking forward to seeing what 2024 brings when we go through the new Transformation and the changes from 'Appointment Interviews' to 'Welcome Conversations'.

Local Training Manager Report:

As a District we aim to be and pretty much continue to succeed on being 100% compliant with our Mandatory On Going Learning, Safety & Safeguarding. TSA sends out reminders as well as reminders from me, so hopefully there's no escaping! Regular First Aid at Work courses continues in the District thanks to Dave Jones. Also 16 hours outdoor first aid courses for those scout and explorer leaders who do more adventurous activities. Scouts Cymru also continue with the blended learning for First Aid followed up by the Practical part locally delivered by Kavan Jones.

I can honestly say as a District we're very much looking forward to what Transformation brings in 2024 and for me looking forward to the new Learning, out with the old and in with the new!

Yours in Scouting

Sue Lloyd
Area Training Manager



THE GLADSTONE CENTRE

WARDEN REPORT 2023-2024

In the past 12 months, the Gladstone Centre has been getting plenty of use from both Scouting and Private Groups. Although the main use is still Scouting such as Leader Training, First Aid Courses, Target Sports, Group use and Duke of Edinburgh Award nights, there are other organisations that are using the centre during off peak times. These include Guiding UK, Adult Learning, Alternative Education, local Round Table and even a band! This year also saw Gladstone used for our District St Georges day celebration and that was good to see everyone coming together.

Members of the Centre Committee and Wednesday work crew, have been constantly engaged in keeping the buildings and outdoor areas in decent shape by cleaning, decorating, mending and the like, to ensure all users are kept safe and everything is clean and tidy for them.

The Gladstone Centre Committee also would like to thank the efforts of volunteers and our dedicated Service Crew who come from all sections within Scouting, and who have spent time doing numerous tasks in and around the Gladstone Centre. Since last Summer we have had several Explorer Scouts helping on a regular basis and some have now achieved their 'Activity Centre Service Activity Badge', as well as producing some great ideas for activities for the younger sections in Scouting. We are looking at implementing these ideas over the next 12 months as finances allow, so well-done to them!

In the last 12 months we have seen an upward trend in Utility and Insurance costs, but by fixing in many of these, we are now able to plan for the future with some certainty and hope to keep the user fees at a similar level next year, whilst still investing in improvements in and around the Centre.

2024 saw a large financial investment to tackle the legal requirements centred around gas safety, electrical inspections, emergency lighting, fire alarms and extinguishers to name a few.

The project to fit energy efficient l.e.d. lighting in both the Main Centre and Bunkhouse has been completed. Hand dryers are now fitted in the toilets of the Main Centre, and we hope to include them in the budget later this year for the Bunkhouse. The Bunkhouse has also seen some changes, with newer bunkbeds being installed and all the rooms and corridors receiving new decoration throughout, plus additional checks on the installed fire extinguishers and alarm/smoke detection system are now in place by an approved contractor.

In April 2024 the Welsh Government brought in Commercial Re-cycling, resulting in additional costs and expense. The Wardens have provided new themed waste bins to allow the Centre users to split any waste into several distinct categories to help with this task.

As the weather took a turn for the worst at the back end of 2023, it was necessary to stop vehicles driving on the field, which is a major asset to the Gladstone Centre and Hawarden Group. The amount of rainfall had left it looking like a water park on a couple of occasions, but the drainage has been working and it steadily dried out ready for the camping season. The tractor mower that keeps the field looking good also received a serious overhaul during the winter months with over £2k being spent to ensure it lasts for a few more years.

Around the site, we have extended the car park area, built a new activity as part of the course improvement project, installed paving in the Range Area, installed a new orienteering course with markers, cleared areas for future activity bases such as Tomahawk throwing and slippery slide, brought lighting and power into the 'Escape Room' shelter and installed ducting for a new fibre internet connection to the Centre which should happen later this year.

More projects that have been completed include new fencing and seating area in front of the centre, new emergency exit doors for the main hall and toilet areas. A new outdoor electrical cabinet with outdoor sockets has been installed adjacent to the carpark, plus festoon lighting down to the campfire area from front of the Main Centre building.

Future projects will include an overhaul for the Aerial Runway platform and stay, a new Outdoor Cooking Learning Area, re-cycling bin storage areas and additional animal proof outdoor recycling bins for camper use. New build fixed altar fires in the woods and the renovation of our Laser Tag Command Centre housed in the old Toilet Block in the woods is also planned. Additional water taps will be installed next to the car park and down by the woodpile area. The current Abseiling Tower is condemned and out of action, but we are making some progress on a plan that will at the right time see it re-built.

Would you like to come and help shape Gladstone Centre? Our growing band of volunteers would like some help to do this, and Explorer Scouts will also be welcome during School holidays to attend on our regular Wednesday Workdays to achieve their 'Activity Centre Service Badge', so why not contact the Wardens via email to find out more.

To see what's going on visit the website for all the information, which includes booking information. www.thegladstonecentre.org.uk

Run by Flintshire Scouts for Flintshire Scouts!

Mike and Phil,

Volunteer Wardens

warden@thegladstonecentre.org.uk

Charity No: 1023503

FLINTSHIRE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 DECEMBER 2023

FLINTSHIRE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of Flintshire District Scout Council (Charity No: 1023503) for the year ended 31st December 2023, which are set out on pages 2 to 5.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's 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 can confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting 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.

Adam Bakewell
15 Marconi House
Melbourne Street
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 2JS

October 21, 2024

FLINTSHIRE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

Year Ended 31 December 2023

	Note	£
Receipts		
District Levy		5,202.00
Subscriptions		6,943.82
District activities		4,339.00
Explorer activities		9,617.30
Duke of Edinburgh's awards		1,288.58
Winter Ball		2,516.28
Gladstone Centre - activities & camping		21,122.90
Badges		3,537.70
Merchandise		804.00
Fundraising		3,167.38
Donations		155.00
Grants		530.00
Miscellaneous income		231.05
Compensation		35.00
Interest		249.54
Total receipts		<u>59,739.55</u>
Payments		
District activities		4,075.73
Explorer activities		16,178.95
Duke of Edinburgh's awards		1,988.97
Winter Ball		4,494.78
Gladstonbury		510.62
Badges		4,175.90
Merchandise		976.61
Youth Online Manager		1,080.00
Training		1,506.00
Contributions		2,100.00
District expenses	1	611.77
Explorer expenses	2	2,639.90
Gladstone Centre costs	3	20,979.70
Total payments		<u>61,318.93</u>
Net receipts / (payments)		(1,579.38)
Cash funds last year end		<u>36,379.40</u>
Cash funds this year end	4	<u><u>34,800.02</u></u>

FLINTSHIRE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Year Ended 31 December 2023

	As at 31 12 23
	£
Cash Funds	<u>34,800.02</u>
Other Monetary Assets	
Stock - badges	2,382.04
Debtors	4,292.78
	<u>6,674.82</u>
Assets retained for own use	
Equipment - Cost	<u>7,879.20</u>
Liabilities	
Creditors	585.40
Accrued expenses	155.42
Deferred income	900.00
	<u>1,640.82</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 30 September, 2024 and signed on their behalf:

D G Robers -----
Treasurer

A E Gray-Jones -----
Trustee

FLINTSHIRE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

NOTES TO RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

Year Ended 31 December 2023

£

1. District expenses

Insurance	242.29
Postage & stationery	24.63
Travel & subsistence	58.05
Website	28.78
Awards	58.00
Donations	184.32
Bank charges	15.70

611.77

2. Explorer expenses

Hire of premises	2,313.00
Heat & light	46.73
Donations	31.35
Miscellaneous	176.22
Bank charges	72.60

2,639.90

3. Gladstone Centre costs

Maintenance	7,842.20
Small tools & equipment	1,252.69
Equipment repairs and fuel	664.46
Water	537.42
Heat & light	3,481.33
Insurance	1,595.26
Telephone	563.20
Computer consumables & software	267.16
Cleaning & waste disposal	2,606.14
Repairs	114.00
Travel & subsistence	1,874.09
Website	49.42
Miscellaneous	62.52
Bank charges	69.81

20,979.70

FLINTSHIRE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

NOTES TO RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

Year Ended 31 December 2023

4. Cash Funds

	At 1 January 2024 £	Net payments £	At 31 December 2024 £
Unrestricted fund	27,283.59	(1,579.38)	25,704.21
Emergency fund	4,500.00		4,500.00
Grant application support fund	1,000.00		1,000.00
Scout representing District fund	3,116.25		3,116.25
Canoe fund	479.56		479.56
	<u>36,379.40</u>	<u>(1,579.38)</u>	<u>34,800.02</u>

FLINTSHIRE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

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Adam Bakewell

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October 21, 2024