

Southampton City Scout District



2023 - 2024
Annual Report & Financial Statement

Report & Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2024

TRUSTEES *Ex-Officio* Appointment Name

District Commissioner - Joshua Smith
District Chair - Veronica Radford
District Secretary - Erika Corradini
District Treasurer - Tony Bradley
District Explorer Scout Commissioner - Luke Hall
District Scout Network Commissioner - Lucy Blatherwick
District Youth Commissioner - Josie Anderson
Deputy District Commissioner (Programme) - Ollie Hyde

TRUSTEES

Elected

Jane Cook
Gail Langton
Sarah Granger
George Longhurst

Nominated

Amanda Wallace
Thelma Bishop-Young
Ruth Hopgood
Charlotte Scholefield

Co-opted

Rex Budd (Wilverley Committee)
Kay Wilkinson (Appointments Committee)
Graham Meering (District President)
Joe Butterworth (SSAGO Rep)
Lloyd Pearson (ASU Administrator)

BANKERS: Natwest, Shirley

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER: Langdowns DFK, Chartered Accountants

District Registration number with the Scout Association: 12038

Charity Registration number: 1117805

Contact Name and Address: Tony Bradley
2 Pewsey Place
SOUTHAMPTON
SO15 7RX

District Chair

The Scout Association is in the midst of changing procedures across all areas, a process called Transformation. It has been a difficult gestation and even more difficult birth, with a stop-start dynamic causing confusion and exasperation! This AGM will mark the beginning of our transformation here in Southampton, with a new format, a new Constitution and a much reduced Trustee Board.

However what has not changed is our continuing success story for bringing Scouting to our local young people and community. Our youth membership is ever growing, we have a new 6th Explorer unit and 8 out of our 11 groups have a Squirrel Drey, welcoming children as young as 4. The level of accomplishment continues to be incredible in our young people, with large numbers of each section achieving the highest level of Chief Scout awards for their age group. As ever this is due to the fantastic hard work of you, the volunteers, who give that most valuable commodity -your time. Thank you!

Another measure of our success is that there are so many aspects to our District that offer many opportunities for adults to continue in scouting, with Network, SSAGO, ASU in Activities and Dakota, offering experienced scouters to help in any area of the District; Appointments, Training and Digital Teams, who are invaluable in helping volunteers to establish themselves in their role.

One of the most dedicated group of volunteers is the Wilverley Maintenance Team, who tirelessly look after our District Campsite in the lovely New Forest. They really need your help and offer a warm welcome and friendship while you work. One of the people who dedicated many years to helping at Wilverley was Graham Wide, who was also the District Chair for 25 years. We were sad to hear of his passing and are grateful for all that he gave to scouting in our community.

We are also sad to say goodbye to Nico and Carolyn Chart who have left the District after many years. In his long scouting career Nico was GSL at the 14th, then our District Training Manager and also set up and led the District Media Team. Carolyn was the Appointments Secretary and her efficient processing of our new volunteers was really appreciated. They have only moved to Romsey so we hope they will keep in touch!

Finally I would like to thank our District President, Graham and our District Secretary, Erika, who are stepping down. I am very glad to say Graham is to continue in the District as District Administrator, but I will be looking for a new Secretary when Erika finishes.

I am very pleased to announce our new President will be Thelma, who is also to take a role in the District Volunteer Team for welcoming, training and development. Thelma brings a wealth of experience in scouting, having been our District Commissioner, held County roles and forged great links with our Council through the City of Culture initiative. Thank you to her and everyone for making scouting in Southampton such a success. Veronica.

District Commissioner

Scouting in Southampton City has bucked the national trend this past year. At a time when many areas have shrunk, we've grown both our youth membership to 927 (+3.2% vs 2023) and total adult volunteers to 315 (+8.2% vs 2023) in the February 2024 census. It's particularly fantastic to see the growth in volunteer numbers, as this is the first year since the pandemic that our total number of volunteers has increased. Thank you to all the amazing volunteers involved in making this growth happen.

Our Programme Team has done a phenomenal job this year, putting on a whole range of exciting District events to bring all groups together, such as our very first District Squirrel Activity Day, and old favourites like the Beavers trip to Marwell Zoo, Cubs Chess Competition, Explorers Paintballing, etc. Sadly our District Camp scheduled for May 2024 had to be postponed to 2025. Instead, a District Activity Camp was held for the Scout section at the start of May. Thank you to everyone who supported these events. Whether organising them, or making sure your young people can attend and have an enjoyable time, such a vibrant offer would have not been possible without your help.

We've continued to support groups that are struggling, working closely with Hampshire Scout's Growth & Development Team. The 9th in particular is in desperate need of more volunteers and the 1st needs a new GSL. If anyone knows anyone who might be interested, please let us know. There has also been a steady stream of support mediation provided to groups and sections to help resolve issues and complaints throughout the year. This is something that appears to be becoming much more demanding on District time and resources each year since the pandemic.

Training compliance remains a high priority for Scouting. All volunteers should now have completed their Safety and Safeguarding within the required timeframes. I'd like to say a particular thanks to our Training Team and GSLs for helping keep this at an acceptable level. Looking ahead, we now need to get First Aid fully up to date as well among relevant roles. Similarly to Safety and Safeguarding training, those with overdue First Aid training will soon be required to step back from Scouting until it is up to date.

Finally, on behalf of the District I would like to express my thanks to everyone across the city and beyond who has been involved in supporting Scouting in Southampton. Without your contribution so many young people would have been deprived of the opportunity to enjoy Scouting and develop their skills for life. It's your hard work and tireless commitment that makes all of this possible.

Joshua Smith | District Commissioner

Squirrels

Squirrels are the youngest members of the Scout family made up of girls and boys aged 4 to 5. Easily recognised by their red tops, they think big, try new things and have fun.

Squirrels have been extremely busy this year and we have had a fun packed fantastic 12 months. The section has continued to grow in the district, and we now have 8 dreys approved with 6 currently up and running. We have 2nd, 9th, 11th, 13th, 14th and the 26th with the 7th and 29th preparing to start.



On the 17th June 23 the Squirrels from across the district came together for the first district squirrel fun day. They took part in many activities including Slack lines, soft archery, soft axe throwing and much more. The event was supported by some of our district explorers, who were fantastic on the day. I would also like to thank all the leaders, adults and squirrels who attended on the day.

In March 24 the squirrels along with the other sections in the district attended district cross country event at the sports centre. Well done to the 13th squirrels who won the trophy. We are looking forward to the next cross country and hope to see the new dreys joining the fun.



Since January 2023, our youngest section, Squirrels, have been able to enjoy exciting Nights Away experiences. It has been great to see some of the squirrels participating in nights away over the past 12 months. This is a great opportunity for Squirrels.

I have had the pleasure of visiting groups over the past 12 months and presenting over 20 Chief Scout Acorn Awards. This is the highest award a Squirrel Scout can earn. To get it, they need to complete all four Challenge Awards and any two Activity Badges of your choice. The Chief Scout's Acorn Award shows that they have had adventures, helped friends, and learned new things – it's a big achievement, and we are very proud of them all.

We are very excited for the next 12 months and we have several amazing activities planned, such as a district trip to a farm and 2 district camps.

Amanda Wallace

District Squirrel Lead Volunteer

Beavers

Over this past year Beaver colonies across the district have taken part in a wide range of activities, day trips & camps. A number of colonies started the year by attending Marwell's Scouting The Zoo event, held over a weekend in May.

In June we held our annual Loggerheads competition at the 13th Scout HQ. 8 Colonies attended and the young people took part in a range of bases themed around Kings & Queens. The weather was on our side and we ended the day with a much needed water fight.

To get in the festive spirit in December we held our annual Christingle Service at St James Methodist Church, then in January we attended the Pantomime at The Point. We finished up the year by celebrating Founders Day with an indoor Campfire, a big thank you to Lloyd Pearson for running this for us.

It's been a pleasure attending colony evenings to present Bronze awards, with a large number being presented this year.

As always I'd like to say a huge thank you to all of the volunteers, Adult & Young Leaders, who provide engaging & adventurous programmes for the Beavers across our district.

Abi Bacon (Squirrel)

Cubs

The Cubs section has had a very full District calendar again this year, offering a wide range of activities to many across the 11 Packs.

Sat 13th May 2023:

A huge thankyou to Ant for running Cubs Archery Competition at 22nd HQ. The Competition was well supported and for some Cubs it was the 1st time they had shot arrows.

The competition was won by 7th Southampton (Bassett) Cubs, well done to all those involved.

Sat 10th June 2023:

David's Challenge Camp at Wilverley, Detectives Camp.

We had a fun weekend of Detective themed bases and enjoyed good weather.

The teams of 6 Cubs from across the District had to work and use their Cubs knowledge to complete the set tasks.

Congratulations to the 7th Southampton (Bassett) Cubs team, who won the competition.

Sat 24th June 2023:

Cubs on the water at Testwood lakes.

Thanks to [Charlie Baker](#) from 26th for organising the event.

We had 3 packs for this event with 40 Cubs signed up. The Cubs had many different opportunities on the water. We had good weather and a great day.

Unfortunately the following weekend when we had another 4 packs to take out the event had to be cancelled due to bad weather.

Sat 1st July 2023:

Cubs District outing to Blackgang Chine IOW.



172 Cubs and Leaders spent the day at Blackgang.



We enjoyed sailing up the Solent to the IOW, for some Cubs this was the 1st time they had been on a Ferry and the 1st time to the Island.

They had an amazing time on the rides, exploring all the different zones and eating Ice-cream(choosing the flavours was really difficult so many to choose from, the Cubs told me.) When we were returning the Cubs got to wave to the Cruise liners that were going up the Solent.

Friday 7th July (evening)2023:

Cubs Athletics/Athletics Plus badge at the Running/Athletics enclosure on the Sports Centre.

We had over 100 Cubs join us for a fun evening of sport to earn their badges. It was lovely to have so many parents stay and sit in the seating areas cheering on the Cubs.

Every Cub earned either their Athletics badge or Athletics Plus badge.

Well done everyone and thank you to the leaders and parent helpers for manning the different activities and keeping scores.

Friday 14th-Sunday 16th September 2023:

Survival Camp at Ferny Crofts.

This camp was a challenge as Linda who was organising it for us was taken ill and unable to continue to organise and support the camp.(Thankfully she was alright)

Thank you to all the Leaders who came on board to help us get the activities, bases, timings and groups for activities together in such a short time.

The Cubs enjoyed a full weekend of activities, Climbing, Backwards Cooking, Science, 1st aid with an Ambulance, Mini Pioneering, Tomahaking, Zip line and much more.

A campfire on Saturday evening kept us warm and as always listening to that many young people singing together was amazing to listen to across Ferny.

Sunday however was a little more challenging as we had a storm hit us and had to send Cubs home early and strike camp in torrential heavy rain and high winds. Well done Leaders and parents that stayed to help us pack up as quickly as we could.

Tuesday 5th December 2023:

Cubs Carols service.

It was lovely to return to St James Road Methodist Church and meet the new Minister Stephen who was very keen to support us and anyone else in the District who would like to use their facilities for meetings and Scouting activities.

The Cubs and their families were very generous again this year, with so many gifts supporting SCRATCH. So that children SCRATCH support across the City would receive a present at Christmas.

Thank you once again to all those who supported the evening and to our supporters from ASU for serving drinks, mince pies and biscuits to parents and brothers and sisters of the cubs, while they waited for the Cubs to finish their party.

Tuesday 13th February 2024:

Cubs Chess Competition.

We love this competition, it is lovely to see that a game that is challenging and needs skillful thought processing is still so popular.

The evening was well supported with a Cub that is under 9 ½ years and 1 over 9 ½ years from each pack setting up and playing chess with each other throughout the evening. We had Cubs from 8 packs attending.

Chief Scouts Silvers Awards.

I have had the great pleasure of awarding Silver awards to:

7 Cubs at the 13th Southampton (Millbrook) Cub Pack. April 19th 2023.

9 Cubs at the 7th Southampton (Bassett) Cub Pack. April 20th 2023.

2 Cubs at the 11th Southampton (Freemantle) Cub Pack. April 21st 2023.

12 Cubs at the 1st Southampton (Aldermoor) Cub Pack July 18th 2023.

I know some groups have presented their own so we have had many more completed.

I have been invited to visit 6 Packs and take part in their Cub Forums so that I can see what the Cubs want to add to their programmes to give a wide variety of challenges and activities and a balanced programme. Thank you to those packs for inviting me.

The section continues to go from strength to strength and we are looking forward to another exciting year ahead and Survival camp 2025 at Lyons Copse.

Sarah Granger (Chil)

A.D.C Cubs

Southampton City District



Scouts

We ended 2023 with a District Christmas Camp at Ferny Crofts with around 45 Scouts from across 5 troops taking part. It included a range of Christmassy activities and enjoyed a festive feast as a liking activity between both sections.

Christmas Camp also served as a relaunch for the District offer for our Scout section programme (10-14 years olds). District Scout Leader Meetings to bring troop volunteers together to share ideas, collaborate, and help shape the District Programme now in full swing despite the absence of a District Scout Section Lead. These are now hosted by troops and rotate round the different groups across the city.

Unfortunately our District Camp 2024 had to be postponed. Instead, a District Activity Camp was held for the Scout section at the start of May. This went very well, with 130 young people attending from across 7 groups, supported by over 40 volunteers. Thank you to everyone who supported the event.

We look forward to seeing what comes next for the section, which appears to be in a much healthier state than a year ago at a District level. Potential future events being planned are a water activity day, water park trip, incident hike competition, and Christmas camp.

Thank you to everyone who has helped make this possible, particularly those volunteering to run future events.

Joshua Smith | District Commissioner

Explorer Scouts

The Explorer section continues to thrive and our teams coordinate effectively to offer a range of activities and events for our young people.

Some district highlights over the last year include:

- Escape to the County Camp in Dorset.
- Christmas Camp at Ferny Crofts
- District Ice Stating evening at WestQuay.
- Summit Mountaineering trip in Snowdonia
- Ferny Fest in the New Forest
- County Kodu
- Paintballing Day
- Monopoly Run in London

We are also very proud to have won the Bronze Kudu Trophy which was held earlier this year in March. Our Silver and Gold teams were also highly placed.

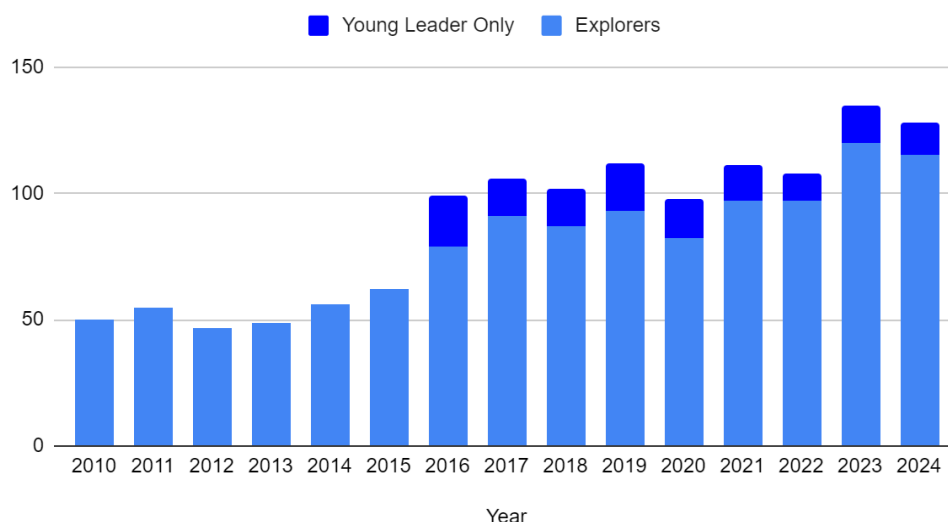
Our teams have also conducted numerous other camps and events throughout the year, for which I am very grateful for their dedication and time.

Size and Growth

We have an exceptional team of adult leaders who provide an outstanding programme to our young people.

We were thrilled to open a new unit to cope with the increased interest in Explorers in the east side of our district. Wyvern ESU opened in October at St Mary's Stoneham Church Hall, where the 26th Southampton Scout Group also meet. We were extremely disappointed that the new unit did not open at 29th Portwood HQ as we had hoped. Our current challenge is to encourage young people to attend Explorers at the new unit which is on the fringe of our district.

Explorer Growth



DofE and Top Awards

Our district DofE provision continues to gain in popularity. This 2024 season we have 2 Bronze teams and a single Silver team completing their expeditions. Going forward we are looking to appoint a dedicated Top Awards Coordinator to help further improve our DofE provision and increase the number of young people achieving Chief Scout Awards

Looking ahead, we have a Summer Camp to Purbeck to look forward to in August with 24 Explorers. Activities will include a kayak trip to Brownsea island, Corfe castle, rock climbing on the coastline and a trip to the local water park.

In 2025 we are also hoping to visit Kandersteg in Switzerland. So far we have 30 young people signed up for what we hope will be an unforgettable experience.

Lastly, I would like to record my continued thanks to my exceptional leadership team, my leaders– together you continue to achieve some amazing things. I am humbled by your commitment to these Young People and the dedication you have for Scouting.

Luke Hall | District Explorer Scout Commissioner



Network

Activities

Network continues to enjoy a wide and varied programme - from kayaking and climbing to ice cream and board games!

Highlights include the Winchester Fireworks back in November, and taking part in the London Monopoly Run - big shout out to our team for coming 2nd overall in the Network competition! It sounded like a great if not rather tiring day running around London!

Thanks to all those who have helped run activities this year - it's always really appreciated and great to have your input into the programme!

Camps

Network organised and took part in a number of camps this year, including:

- Escape to the Country Camp (Southampton City Explorers and Network Challenge Camp)
- Autumn Ferny Camp
- Christmas Camp
- Winter Camp
- IOW Revolution

We very much enjoyed them all!

Membership

Over the 2023-24 year Network have seen a significant number of our members turning 25 and so beginning to phase out of our programme. We don't ask those turning 25 to immediately leave, but the natural progression is that they tend to drop away. This does mean that some of our regular attendees are coming to less socials, and Network is therefore feeling a little more sparse than previous years.

Oh the flip side it's been great to see more young people considering the move up from Explorers to Network - there is definitely more awareness of Network among the current older Explorers. We've had several come along to various socials, and are hoping to continue to see this trend!

At our peak (at Christmas Camp) we had around 22 active members and although overall at the end of the year we have had a small dip in membership, it's currently nothing to worry about - especially with the promise of new members in September from the SSAGO cohort.

Financials

This year Network and Explorers merged bank accounts. This solved a number of issues we were having, and is a much better system for Network. Thanks to Luke and Tony for helping to work this out!

Lucy Blatherwick - District Scout Network Commissioner

Southampton SSAGO

(Student Scout & Guide Organisation)

In Summer 2023 we had four members complete their Gold DofE Expedition. The expedition was organised and run by our members. Furthermore, we had nine members attend Kandersteg International Scout Centre in an international trip, organised by Southampton SSAGO.

We had a disappointing intake of Freshers this year, with only one new member joining. The poor uptake in freshers this academic year has informed a change in strategy for next academic year. We have begun planning our Freshers term and are hoping for a good turn out.

Our members have continued to support the District in their leadership roles, including helping to set up Wyvern Explorer Unit.

This year we had members attend all three national SSAGO rallies, offering minibus driving to all rallies. We had a few members attend the national ball, something that we don't typically do, including one member being on the organising committee.

Additionally to the national events, we had a freshers camp at Winchester fireworks, a joint winter camp with Network in the Brecon Beacons and attended the Isle of Wight Revolution. This summer we will be running a summer camp for our members at Gilwell Park.

On top of regular camps, we have held regular socials for members including hikes, crafts, our annual christmas meal and cocktail party.

In Summer 2025, we are planning to go on an international trip to Slovenia, and run another Gold DofE expedition.

Joseph Butterworth
Scout Liaison 2024/2025
Southampton SSAGO

Youth Team

In my first year as Youth Commissioner I have spent time supporting district events and using them as an opportunity to hear the suggestions of scouts and explorers in the district.

At the Explorers and Scouts Christmas camp I ran a scouts forum where the scouts shared their views about what they enjoyed about scouting and what events and activities they wanted to see from a district programme. I was able to share these thoughts with the scouts leaders at the camp who will hopefully be able to incorporate these ideas into a programme for the young people. As a programme team we were able to begin this through the Scouts Survival Camp, in replacement for the postponed district camp, which included many of the ideas produced by the scouts, including a longer camp, backwards cooking and Laser-tag.

I have also visited the district's newest explorer unit, Wyvern, where I introduced the young people and leaders to the Youshape award. It was great to hear the variety of ideas they had for growing their unit size and adding more adventure to their scouting journey!

I'm looking forward to attending more district events over the next year, including the upcoming squirrels and beavers camp, as well as visiting more groups and sections to discuss Youshape and what young people want to do with their scouting.

Josie Anderson - District Youth Commissioner

Wilverley Scout Campsite

Bookings for the year have been strong, enabling us to continue to provide a significant return to the Wilverley Dividend Fund, supporting training, equipment and investment in Scouting in our District. Financial details are in the Treasurer's report. Use of the site by our own groups is increasing, taking advantage of free and preferential rates for our own District. This rising trend will hopefully continue. Generator charges have to be passed on at cost, but these were frozen at £8 per hour for 2024.

New posts have been put in alongside the track around the field. This has been successful in preventing vehicles being taken on to the grass, with the resulting damage.

There is now a dual fuel fridge in the Charles Alan Building as well as the Cottage. Both required extra work to improve ventilation and prevent new, more sensitive carbon monoxide sensors being tripped. Other improvements to the Cottage have been to roof ventilation, chimney brickwork, plumbing, emergency lighting and hallway floor support.

Forestry England required us to conduct a tree survey in adherence to the terms of our lease. (First occurrence in the 50 years we have had the site.) This identified a lot of work needing to be done. One dead tree was felled, and about 30 trees "dead-wooded". The last phase was to bring in a "Merlo" heavy machine to halve the height of all the conifers alongside the A35 and around the Cottage activity field. As well as efficiency, the commissioning of this machine was for safety reasons to prevent any chance of wood falling towards the main road. Work was completed in mid-May 2024. A new permanent fence has been erected by us on the inside of the roadside tree line behind the two buildings, replacing our temporary fencing. This was necessary after verge clearance work done by Hampshire Highways in 2023, left the boundary insecure from a safety and safeguarding point of view.

At the end of March, our LPG generator failed, eleven years after being installed new. Work is continuing to source the parts which may resolve the problem. These are only available from the United States. At the time of writing, no supplier has been found who is willing to export to the UK. There is no electrical power on site and therefore no hot water for showers. The lack of cottage heating is not an issue during summer time, but will be by the autumn. This has increased the urgency to secure funding of approximately £150,000 needed to bring mains electricity on to the site from Holmsley.

As always, we are indebted to the six members of the maintenance team, unchanged since last year. More members would be very welcome as it would be very difficult to operate with less people. Our booking secretary Richard Webster who works very hard behind the scenes, has had extra work keeping site users up to date with the generator situation.

As well as mains electricity supply and other electrical work related to this, tasks remaining on the project list until time and manpower permit, are the replacement of the field toilet, and improvement of the drainage in the lower DofE field.

Yours in Scouting,

Rex Budd
Wilverley Committee Chairman

Active support Unit

This year has been a year of steadily trying to ramp things up, and will be what we aim to continue to do going forward. The main focus has been trying to ensure that everybody is aware of what permits are available and ensuring that funding is being used where appropriate to support scouting in our area. Over the past year we've seen more and more scouters applying for funding and signing up to various courses from Top Rope to Power Boat Level 2's. Progress has been slower than we'd have hoped on this though as it's proving difficult to find providers of these courses, but we are steadily getting there, and setting up mailing lists to allow us to distribute details quicker to those who want them in the future to allow more people to sign up, but also allow us to hopefully run our own courses in the future.

Dakota ASU has attended some events over the past year including the Cubs christingle and carol service. They are very keen to attend more events though and I would implore anyone who needs assistance on evenings or events to Carol Nicholls.

Lloyd Pearson
Active Support Unit Manager

District Support Teams

Training Team:

Training

With help from our six Training Advisers (Thelma, Graham, Ellie, Georgie, Iain, David) we have continued to support leaders and assistants in the district through training.

Many thanks to all leaders who have found time to keep themselves chilled and skilled. Between the leaders of the district there are 89 woodbadges in current roles.

14 of those woodbadges were awarded during 2023 and another 8 so far in 2024.

Thanks also to Georgie, Iain, plus help from Andy Ife, who have helped us run 4 first response courses last year and another three so far this year.

Keep up the good work.

Nicholas G Chart

Local Training Manager

Hampshire County Scouts

Appointments Advisory Committee:

Annual Report of the Appointments Advisory Committee for

District AGM, Southampton City Scouts

June 2023 to end of May 2024

Members of the Appointments Committee this year were:

Kay Wilkinson (Chair)

Carolyn Chart (Secretary)

Gail Langton

Jane Cook

Christopher Shanks

Anthony Wilkinson

A huge thank you to every member of the panel for their hard work this year, and for streamlining the appointments and training process through close collaboration with Nico on the training team.

Over the last twelve months since the last AGM, we held eight Appointments Panel meetings (in, July, October, November, January, February, March, April and May) and approved the following 50 appointments.

5 Explorer Scout Leaders

2 Assistant Explorer scout leader

1 Scout leader at 14th

5 Assistant Scout Leaders at the 2nd, 7th and 14th

10 Scouts Sectional Assistants at the 2nd, 9th, 14th, 26th and 29th

1 Cub Leader at the 25th

7 Assistant Cub Leaders at the 1st, 7th, 14th, 26th and 29th

4 Cubs Sectional Assistants at the 2nd, 9th, 26th

1 Beaver leader at 26th

5 Assistant Beaver Leaders at the 11th, 14th, 22nd and 29th

1 Beavers Sectional Assistant at the 29th

2 Squirrel scout leader at the 14th and 26th

5 Squirrels Sectional Assistant at the 11th, 14th and 26th

1 Group skills instructor at 25th

The candidates were all of a very high standard. In addition, we have considered and approved 12 changes of role or additional roles within the District - these are decided without needing to meet the candidate in person. The number of new leaders and of changes of role approved this year is a slight decrease from last year. All of our panel meetings have been on Zoom. We have also regularly sent reminders for

reviews due which are occasionally coming through– thanks so much to all those who have endeavoured to keep on top of these!

On a personal note, I will be stepping down from my role as Appointments Secretary at the end of June after 7 years in the role having started in June 2017. Thank you to all those who have served alongside me on the Appointments Committee and to those GSLs and on the District team who have worked with me to make the appointments process as welcoming and efficient as we can to all the new leaders joining us.

Carolyn Chart

District Appointments Secretary

Digital Team:

The digital team members are Abi Bacon, Charlie Baker, Luke Hall, Oli Bills, Sam Chapman, and me though I am retiring from this role in July 2024. This Team exists to help the District provide communications that are high quality, on-brand, and safety delivered via appropriate technologies in accordance with all relevant laws and guidance from the Scout Association.

We keep the district website and social media informative, we pass out news of district activities, and we help district members with digital communications. We look after the Google Workspace administration of email addresses, etc.

This year we have helped the district to adopt two-factor authentication for access to district email accounts, as this is standard security practice these days.

Anyone who is interested in digital and media topics is invited to coordinate with us to help us develop and encourage good communications within and beyond the district.

The digital team have also been keeping the district website, Wilverley website and group websites updated, especially when adding Squirrel sections. Please continue to let us know if you spot anything that needs to be updated. GSLs can also be added as website editors on request.

Please continue to submit news and anything your group would like to have promoted to our email address digital@southamptoncityscouts.org.uk

Nico is retiring from the Digital Team. We thank him for his time and dedication to the role. If anyone would like to join the team please let us know.

Finally here are some stats!

District Google Workspace Stats:

- Email - 127 weekly active users
- Drive - 51 weekly active users and 183gb of documents stored securely.
- Calendar 42 weekly active users

Website Stats - Page views on district website over the last 12 months:

Page title and screen class ▾ +		↓ Views -----
		16,558 100% of total
1	Southampton City Scouts	2,905
2	Wilverley Youth Campsite	2,529
3	2nd Southampton (Shirley) Scouts	1,152
4	Southampton City Scouts - Join Scouts	973
5	Wilverley Youth Campsite - Location	865
6	Wilverley Youth Campsite - Facilities	843
7	Southampton City Scouts - Locations	839
8	Wilverley Youth Campsite - Prices	630
9	26th Southampton (Swaythling) Scouts	598
10	Wilverley Youth Campsite - Book Now	597
11	Southampton City Scouts - Member Resources	505
12	Wilverley Youth Campsite - Activities	356
13	22nd Southampton (Regents Park) Scouts	354
14	13th Southampton (Millbrook) Sea Scouts	348
15	1st Southampton (Aldermoor) Scouts	328

Nico Chart & Luke Hall

Safety Advisor

There were no incidents or breaches of Health and Safety legislation reported, nor any contact with groups regarding issues or concerns they might have had over the year.

Tony Bradley, Health and Safety advisor

District Treasurer

I can report there continues to be a healthy return to bookings for Wilverley, with an income of £37,690, including a booking refund of £690, despite the fact we suffered a failure of the generator in the spring. Against this the maintenance was £5042, overheads £7130, utilities £4384, insurance £2739 and projects £2314. Taking into account all receipts and expenditure the District generated a surplus of £11,179 to be distributed between the Wilverley Long Term Project Fund and the District Dividend Fund.

Price increases of raw materials and commodities continue to rise, reflected in the increases seen in the maintenance costs above. The Wilverley committee will continue to monitor increases for the next year and going forward.

We continue to use NatWest for our current and reserve banking and continue to use FreeAgent as much as possible. During the year we moved the sum £35,000 to our investment account with CCLA, our charities investment fund, to ensure our holding with NatWest didn't exceed the NatWest bank guarantee of £85K. NatWest have informed us that we now exceed an annual turnover of £100k and will be subject to business banking charges from 1st June 2024.

During the year we began to make use of pre-loaded payment cards for several Explorer leaders and then ADCs and some of the Wilverley maintenance team.

This is proving successful in providing flexibility to these card holders and obviating the need for them to be out-of-pocket whilst awaiting refunds.

I can report that our independent examiner Langdowns DFK were given the supporting documentation for the examination of accounts in good time, and a complete and accurate set of figures are presented to the AGM, as set out below.

We are grateful to Lucy Parry and Jade Jex of Langdowns and pleased to see a continuation of the good service we have received for the previous years in reviewing and examining the accounts, and for the work they have done on our behalf this year.

The annual census was completed in January of this year and invoices issued to the groups and units. I am pleased to say we made our combined subscription payment to the County before the end of the financial year, having received all incoming payments in good time. Early

payment reductions and a one-off County rebate were able to be passed on. It is because we process over £50k in making the census payment that we now exceed our banking turnover limit.

My thanks again to the groups, units, and their treasurers for their assistance and speedy responses in making their payments.

Tony Bradley

District Treasurer

June 2024.

Southampton City Scout District Receipts and Payments Account				
		Year start date		Year end date
	For the year from	1st April 2023	To	31 March 2024
Receipts and payments				
		2023-2024		2022-2023
		Unrestricted funds		Unrestricted funds
		£		£
Receipts				
Donations, legacies and similar income				
Membership subscriptions		50,655		45,951
Less: Membership subscriptions paid on (National/County/Area/District)		- 50,655	-	46,072
Net membership subscriptions retained		-	-	121
Sales		137		15
Activities				
Gift Aid		4,986		4,348
Other similar income (insurance claim)				4,750
Sub total		5,123		8,992
Grants				
Maintenance grant				
Other grants		3,518		500
Sub total		3,518		500
Fundraising (gross)				
Sections		11,214		9,417
Camps		13,021		12,036
Wilverley booking		37,690		31,287
Other fundraising activities (Explorers, Network and ASU)		12,170		30,360
Sub total		74,095		83,100
Investment income				
Bank interest		2,726		891
Building Society interest				
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service				
Property Rent dividend		7,473		8,000
Other investment income				-
Sub total		10,199		8,891
Total Gross Income		92,935		101,484
Asset and investment sales, etc.				
Total receipts		92,935		101,484
Southampton City Scout District Receipts and Payments Account				
		Year start date		Year end date
	For the year from	1st April 2023	To	31 March 2024
Receipts and payments				
		2023-2024		2022-2023
		Unrestricted funds		Unrestricted funds
		£		£
Payments				

Charitable Payments			
Youth programme and activities		6,061	5,085
Adult support and training			744
Rent		180	160
Explorers, Network and ASU		28,880	29,334
Insurance		2,739	2,690
Repairs and Renewals (Wilverley Maintenance)		7,356	7,295
Materials and equipment			
Printing and photocopying			
Contribution to camp costs		11,397	10,152
Professional fees		816	780
Activities		3,599	1,244
Advertising & promotion		83	75
Leaving & retirement gifts		377	
AGM Expenses		45	194
Staff Training		961	222
Wilverley overhead (Gas, Water, Waste, Phone etc.)		11,514	9,229
Sub total		74,008	67,204
Fundraising expenses			
Web hosting		1,606	233
International Jamboree Funding		6,142	9,446
ASU cash payment			-
Cash-in-hand written off (Activities and Treasurer)			128
Sub total		7,748	9,807
Total Gross Expenditure		81,756	77,011
Asset and investment purchases, etc.			
Total payments		81,756	77,011
Net of receipts/(payments)		11,179	24,473
Cash funds last year end		128,450	103,977
Cash funds this year end		139,629	128,450
Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year			
		2023-2024	2022-2023
		Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
		£	£
Cash funds			
Bank current account		22,681	31,937
Bank deposit account		27,278	46,660
CCLA Charities Investment Account		76,537	39,429
Explorers, Network and ASU bank accounts		11,937	10,424
Equals card account		1,179	
Cash/Floats (ASU)		17	
Total cash funds		139,629	128,450
Other monetary assets			
Tax claim			
Debts due from the County/Area/District/Group			
Insurance claim			
Sub total		-	-
Investment assets			

The following table is the declared non-monetary assets at 31st March 2024

	Southampton City Scout District - Non Monetary Assets							
					<i>Assumption: Any asset sold is more than 5 years old and therefore written off</i>			
					<i>Depreciation of asset value by straight line depreciation over 5 years</i>			
					<i>Consumables not knowingly included</i>			
					<i>Buildings at Wilverley District Camp Site NOT counted - Not realisable assets.</i>			
	<u>Assets bought in 2019-20</u>	2019/20 value	2020/21 value	2021/22 value	2022/23 value	2023/24 value	2024/25 value	
	Wilverley Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Archery Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Canoe Club Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Climbing Wall Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Shooting Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	District Camping Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Miscellaneous	£500.00	£400.00	£300.00	£200.00	£100.00	£0.00	
	Network Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	

	nt							
	Explorer Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Assets bought in 2020-2021	2020/21 value	2021/22 value	2022/23 value	2023/24 value	2024/25 value	2025/26 value	
	Wilverley Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Archery Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Canoe Club Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Climbing Wall Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Shooting Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	District Camping Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Miscellaneous	£400.00	£320.00	£240.00	£160.00	£80.00	£0.00	
	Network Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Explorer Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Assets bought in 2021-2022	2021/22 value	2022/23 value	2023/24 value	2024/25 value	2025/26 value	2026/27 value	
	Wilverley Equipment	£869.97	£695.98	£521.98	£347.99	£173.99	£0.00	
	Archery Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	

	nt							
	Canoe Club Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Climbing Wall Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Shooting Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	District Camping Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Miscellaneous	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Network Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Explorer Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	<u>Assets bought in 2022-2023</u>	2022/23 value	2023/24 value	2024/25 value	2025/26 value	2026/27 value	2027/28 value	
	Wilverley Equipment	£1,594.49	£1,275.59	£956.69	£637.80	£318.90	£0.00	
	Archery Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Canoe Club Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Climbing Wall Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Shooting Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	

	District Camping Equipme nt	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Miscellan eous	£599.98	£479.98	£359.99	£239.99	£120.00	£0.00	
	Network Equipme nt	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Explorer Equipme nt	£931.00	£744.80	£558.60	£372.40	£186.20	£0.00	

	<u>Assets bought in 2023-2024</u>	2023/24 value	2024/25 value	2025/26 value	2026/27 value	2027/28 value	2028/29 value	
	Wilverley Equipme nt	£1,442.90	£1,154.32	£865.74	£577.16	£288.58	£0.00	*
	Archery Equipme nt	£158.33	£126.66	£95.00	£63.33	£31.67	£0.00	**
	Canoe Club Equipme nt	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Climbing Wall Equipme nt	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Shooting Equipme nt	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	District Camping Equipme nt	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Miscellan eous	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Network Equipme nt	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Explorer Equipme nt	£2,002.76	£1,602.21	£1,201.66	£801.10	£400.55	£0.00	

	2022/23 year end values							
	bought in :-	Current year	Current -1	Current -2	Current -3	Current -4	Totals	
	Wilverley Equipment	£1,442.90	£1,275.59	£521.98	£0.00	£0.00	£3,240.47	
	Archery Equipment	£158.33	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£158.33	
	Canoe Club Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Climbing Wall Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Shooting Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	District Camping Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Miscellaneous	£0.00	£479.98	£0.00	£160.00	£100.00	£739.98	
	Network Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Explorer Equipment	£2,002.76	£744.80	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£2,747.56	***
	Tony Bradley, District Treasurer, Southampton City Scout District, 31st March 2024					TOTAL	£6,886.35	
*	Wilverley equipment bought:		Fridge	£939.95	10/07/2023	Wilverley Maintenance		
			Battery	£89.99	16/07/20	Wilverley		

			Charger		23	Mainten ance		
			Battery Charger	£53.99	29/12/20 23	Wilverley Maintena nce		
			CCTV equipt	359.97	13/09/20 23	Wilverley Maintena nce		
**	Archery equipt		Arrows etc	£158.33	12/05/20 23	Activities		
***	Explorers Equipme nt		Tents	£1,910.4 0	09/11/20 23	Explorers Equipme nt		
			Cookers	£92.36	28/02/20 24	Explorers Equipme nt		

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

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Southampton City District Scout Council for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Southampton City District Scout Council you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Southampton City District Scout Council accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Southampton City District Scout Council as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Name: Mrs L A Parry, ACA
ICAEW

Address: Langdowns DFK
Fleming Court
Leigh Road
Eastleigh
Southampton, SO50 9PD

Date:

3 July 2024

Southampton City Scout District Receipts and Payments Account

Year start date

Year end date

For the year
from

1st April 2023

To

31 March 2024

Receipts and payments

	2023-2024 Unrestricted funds £	2022-2023 Unrestricted funds £
Receipts		
Donations, legacies and similar income		
Membership subscriptions	50,655	45,951
Less: Membership subscriptions paid on (National/County/Area/District)	-	-
Net membership subscriptions retained	-	121
Sales	137	15
Activities		
Gift Aid	4,986	4,348
Other similar income (insurance claim)		4,750
Sub total	5,123	8,992
Grants		
Maintenance grant		
Other grants	3,518	500
Sub total	3,518	500
Fundraising (gross)		
Sections	11,214	9,417
Camps	13,021	12,036
Wilverley booking	37,690	31,287
Other fundraising activities (Explorers, Network and ASU)	12,170	30,360
Sub total	74,095	83,100
Investment income		
Bank interest	2,726	891
Building Society interest		
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service		
Property Rent dividend	7,473	8,000
Other investment income		-
Sub total	10,199	8,891
Total Gross Income	92,935	101,484
Asset and investment sales, etc.		
Total receipts	92,935	101,484

Southampton City Scout District Receipts and Payments Account

Year start date

Year end date

For the year
from

1st April 2023

To

31 March 2024

Receipts and payments

	2023-2024 Unrestricted funds £	2022-2023 Unrestricted funds £
Payments		
Charitable Payments		
Youth programme and activities	6,061	5,085
Adult support and training		744
Rent	180	160
Explorers, Network and ASU	28,880	29,334
Insurance	2,739	2,690
Repairs and Renewals (Wilverley Maintenance)	7,356	7,295
Materials and equipment		
Printing and photocopying		
Contribution to camp costs	11,397	10,152
Professional fees	816	780
Activities	3,599	1,244
Advertising & promotion	83	75
Leaving & retirement gifts	377	
AGM Expenses	45	194
Staff Training	961	222
Wilverley overhead (Gas, Water, Waste, Phone etc.)	11,514	9,229
Sub total	74,008	67,204
Fundraising expenses		
Web hosting	1,606	233
International Jamboree Funding	6,142	9,446
ASU cash payment		-
Cash-in-hand written off (Activities and Treasurer)		128
Sub total	7,748	9,807
<i>Total Gross Expenditure</i>	81,756	77,011
Asset and investment purchases, etc.		
<i>Total payments</i>	81,756	77,011
<i>Net of receipts/(payments)</i>	11,179	24,473
Cash funds last year end	128,450	103,977
<i>Cash funds this year end</i>	139,629	128,450

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

	2023-2024 Unrestricted funds £	2022-2023 Unrestricted funds £
Cash funds		
Bank current account	22,681	31,937
Bank deposit account	27,278	46,660
CCLA Charities Investment Account	76,537	39,429
Explorers, Network and ASU bank accounts	11,937	10,424

Equals card account	1,179	
Cash/Floats (ASU)	17	
Total cash funds	139,629	128,450
Other monetary assets		
Tax claim		
Debts due from the County/Area/District/Group		
Insurance claim		
Sub total	-	-
Investment assets		
Investment property		
Quoted investments		
Other investments - detail		
Sub total	-	-
Non monetary assets for charity's own use		
Badge stock	611	850
Shop stock		
Other stock		
Land and buildings		
Motor vehicles		
Scouting equipment, furniture. Fixed assets	6,886	3,455
Other		
Sub total	7,497	4,305
Liabilities		
Accounts not yet paid		
Expenses incurred but not invoiced		
Subscriptions not yet paid		
Loan - detail		
Other liabilities.		
Sub total	-	-

Contingent liabilities and future obligations

The above receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on 28th June 2024 (the date of the Executive Committee meeting that approved the accounts) and signed on their behalf by:

Signature

Print Name

Dr. V. M. Radford

Chair

Mr. J. A. Bradley

Treasurer

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

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Southampton City District Scout Council for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Southampton City District Scout Council you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Southampton City District Scout Council accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Southampton City District Scout Council as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Name: Mrs L A Parry, ACA
ICAEW

Address: Langdowns DFK
Fleming Court
Leigh Road
Eastleigh
Southampton, SO50 9PD

Date:

3 July 2024