



REGISTERED CHARITY No 276613



95th

Annual General Meeting

June 18th, 2025

WELCOME

*The President and District Officials cordially
welcome you to the*

95th Annual General Meeting of Loddon District Scout Council

On

Wednesday June 18th, 2025

At

1st Wargrave Scout HQ

*The agenda for the meeting, the minutes of the last
AGM and the various reports are set out in the
following pages.*

LODDON DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

Annual General Meeting

June 18th, 2025, at 8.00 pm
1st Wargrave HQ, Recreation Ground, East View Road. RG10 8EE

AGENDA

1. Introduction and welcome
2. Apologies for absence
3. Governance topics
 - a. To approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 19th June 2024
 - b. Adopt the model constitution from Policy, Organisation and Rules
 - c. Note the District's financial year.
 - d. Approve appointed and community members of the District Scout Council
 - e. Agree the number of members that may be appointed to the Trustee Board
 - f. Agree the quorum for future meetings of the District Scout Council (excluding this AGM)
4. Review of the previous year
 - a. The District Lead Volunteer's review of Scouts in Loddon District
 - b. To receive and consider the Annual Report of the District Trustee Board including the annual Statement of the Accounts
5. Making appointments
 - a. Appoint the District Chair
 - b. Appoint the District Treasurer
 - c. Appoint members of the District Trustee Board, following recommendations from the open selection process initiated by the District Trustee Board
 - d. To re-appoint the District President.
 - e. To appoint the Scrutineer.
 - f. To nominate representatives of the District Scout Council to represent the District on the County Scout Council
6. Introduce County Commissioner to say a few words.
7. Closing remarks

Minutes of the 94th Annual General Meeting of the Loddon District Scout Council held on Wednesday 19th June 2024 in 1st Twyford Scout HQ & commencing at 8.15pm

1) Introduction and welcome

The District Chair opened the meeting with a few safety announcements and then handed over to the District President to say a few words.

The President, Mick Stocks, welcomed everyone to the meeting especially Nigel Bevan the County Lead Volunteer.

He then said that he was very pleased to be able to do the welcome as he wanted to thank everyone for all their efforts throughout the past year. He said he knew from experience; how much time is involved in running successful scout meetings, and he wanted to express his thanks to everyone. It had been a difficult year as the transition has been delayed a number of times. However, he felt that once everything is in place it will be a welcome move forward and will be good for all.

The Great Orme tragedy has been a sobering time for us all and emphasises the importance of following the rules correctly.

He then thanked all the trustees for their work throughout the past year and mentioned Donald, our chair, especially for his work on the Paddicks Patch project.

Donald replied by saying that we hope to receive a donation from the Earley Charities in the near future but that other donations are unlikely as we are not in a deprived area and therefore not likely to be considered.

2) Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from, Chris & Mary Fido, Trefor Fisher, Ulla Swynford-Lain, Ken & Linda Peters, Karen Thurlow, Noelle Vaz, John Edmunds, Joan Fahey, Malcolm Fillingham, Lynda Evans, Phil Brown and Ian Aitken. Some 22 District members attended.

3) Governance Topics

Donald noted to the District Scout Council members present that this part of the meeting is a necessary part to make sure that the charity's foundations are in good order.

4) Approval of Minutes of AGM held on 21st June 2023

The District Chair, Donald MacDonald, then continued chairing the meeting by saying that the minutes from last year were reviewed by the District Executive Committee at their first meeting after the AGM and so he proposed that the minutes are taken as read and asked the District Scout Council to agree that they are a true record of that meeting. Robin Phillips seconded the proposal and there was a unanimous show of hands to approve.

5) **To adopt the model constitution from policy, Organisation and Rules**

In line with the recommendation from Scout Headquarters, Donald proposed that we adopt the model constitution from Chapter 5 of the Policy, Organisation and Rules. A copy of this was sent to everyone for review and inspection prior to this meeting and copies are also available at the meeting. Jane Moore seconded this proposal, and the show of hands was unanimous.

a) **To note the District's financial year.**

Members of the District Scout Council are asked to note that our charity's financial year is 1st April to 31st March.

b) **To approve appointed and community members of the scout council**

Donald said that the Chair noted the District Scout Council can admit other people to membership. Chair advises that no other persons are nominated as District Scout Council members. These would have been admitted as members of the District Scout Council as well as the ex officio list in POR Rule 5.5.4 There was therefore no need for a show hands to approve.

c) **To agree the number of members that may be elected to the Trustee Board**

The District Scout Council must agree at its AGM the number of people that can be elected to the Trustee Board. The recommendation from the outgoing Trustee Board is that 8 people can be elected. The Chair proposes that the District Scout Council approves that recommendation. Seconder was Linda Bowes, and the show of hands was unanimous.

d) **To agree the quorum for each of the District Scout Council (including this AGM), meetings of the District Trustee Board, meetings of any sub-committees.**

The District Scout council must agree at its AGM the quorum – the minimum number of District Scout Council members that must be present at a meeting of the District Scout Council. The recommendation from the outgoing Trustee Board is that the quorum should be set at 8 persons. The District Scout Council was asked to approve that recommendation. The seconder was Linda Bowes and the show of hands unanimous.

6) **Review of the previous year**

The chair noted to the District Scout Council members present that this part of the meeting was the opportunity to reflect of the activities of the past year.

a) **The District Lead Volunteer's review of Scouting in Loddon District**

In addition to his written report Geoff said that he wanted to highlight the need

for all risk assessments and nights away approvals to be up to date. All leaders need to be trained to ensure the safety of the children in our care. Some of the training will be updated soon. All risk assessments must be specific to the task and generic ones must not be used. We need to make sure that we have contingency plans in place for every activity.

Geoff thanked all who supported him when he was in hospital, he said it was pleasing to know that there is such good support within the District. He also thanked Jenny Lamprell for stepping up to become joint lead volunteer with him and said that he was grateful to be able to pass on some of the many duties the job entails. He also thanked every leader in the District for all their hard work throughout the past year.

The Chair then thanked Geoff for his report and reiterated his thanks for all that he had done throughout the past year. He also thanked Jenny for her support to Geoff.

b) To receive and consider the Annual Report of the District Trustee Board including the annual statement of the Accounts.

The Chairman said that the District Trustee Board had approved the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts, and the report on the accounts had been received from the Scrutineer. He then asked the District Treasurer to give his explanation of the Statement of Accounts.

The treasurer added to his report by saying that our assets have increased this year by £8,000. The shop added £2,000 with their donation and we also received £3,500 in interest on accounts. Overall Paddicks Patch is a drain on our resources, but the cost of electricity has gone down this year. We have spent £3,500 in starting the work to secure the planning consent.

Jane Moore asked him about whether the Explorers were claiming gift aid and Simon replied that this is still with HMRC but has been applied for. He expects a reasonable sum to be gained from this.

The Chair then thanked Simon for all his hard work on the accounts and for sorting out the Gift Aid reclamation.

Linda Bowes then interjected with a request that we note our grateful thanks to Babara and Ian Loring for all their work at the Scout shop. Donald endorsed this.

7) Making Appointments

The Chair noted to the District Scout Council members present that we'll use this part of the meeting to organise the setup of the charity until the next AGM. We'll appoint a Trustee Board to oversee good governance for the charity over the next year.

- a) **To appoint the District Chair**
The Chair then handed chairmanship of the meeting to the District Lead Volunteer who nominated Donald MacDonald as District Chair and asked for a show of hands as approval which was unanimous. He then handed chairmanship back to the Chair.
- b) **Election of the District Treasurer**
The District Treasurer is an elected appointment and, as required, Simon Roberts has been formally proposed and seconded. Since there were no other nominations by the closing date a show of hands is required to approve Simon's election. This was unanimous. The Chair then thanked Simon for his support throughout the year.
- c) **Elections of members to the District Trustee Board**
The chair explained the open selection process agreed by the Trustee Board. The recommendation to the District Scout Council is that Robin Phillips, Helen Price, Mick Stocks, Jenny Lamprell and Geoff Barnes should be appointed as members of the trustee board.
There was a unanimous show of hands to approve.
The chair then thanked the trustees for their work during the year.
- d) **To re-appoint the District President**
The Chair noted that the District Scout Council appoints the District President. He advised that Mick Stocks had been proposed as President and asked for a show of hands to reapprove. This was unanimous.
He then thanked Mick for his support throughout the year.
- e) **To appoint the Scrutineer.**
The Treasurer then proposed Mike Waddelove as scrutineer for the next year. The Chair then said that Mike Waddelove had been proposed and seconded and is qualified for the role. He asked for a show of hands to approve Mike Waddelove's nomination. This was unanimous.
- f) **To nominate representatives of the District Scout Council to represent the District on the County Scout Council**
We are required to nominate at least 1 person as District Representatives to the County Scout Council. Tom Toy has been proposed and seconded. He asked for a show of hands to approve the nomination. This was unanimous. He then thanked Tom for standing once again.
- 8) **The Chair then introduced Nigel Bevan the County Lead Volunteer who gave his review.**
Nigel began by saying that we all need to get used to the new terminology. It will take time as we have been using the old terminology for years, but change is necessary.
Loddon membership is up 3.6% in general, and our scout membership is up 10% which is above the national average. There are new Squirrel sections

popping up everywhere and all are very successful.

We are one of ten counties who are early adopters of the transformation. We are doing well and are now waiting for the technology to be put in place so that we can move forward with it. Adult Appointment Committees have now been disbanded and Group Lead Volunteers will now hold welcome conversations with new volunteers, this will be recorded on the Compass Database until the new technology is in place.

The Great Orme Tragedy has been a difficult time. The jury found that the leaders of the expedition were guilty of unlawful killing which was contributed to by the neglect of the Scout Association. The coroner said that the Scout Association has rules but that we are not following them. He has asked for five reports which cover "Safety, Nights Away, Adventurous Activities, Training, and Visits Abroad." All new leaders must be trained within 5 months.

As a county we have a few international trips coming up, There are 190 people going to Malawi this summer and next year is a trip to the Alps. 2026 will see the next WINGS camp so we have lots of exiting activities happening. We thank everyone for all they do and for keeping their training up to date.

9) Awards

Two awards were then presented by Geoff our District Lead Volunteer.

Helen Price received her 25 year long-service award.

Linda Bowes received her 50 year long-service award.

The Chair then thanked Nigel and thanked everyone for attending the AGM. He closed the meeting at 21.00 and thanked Tom for his hospitality and for hosting the AGM.

The next AGM is due to take place on 18th June 2025.

District Lead Volunteer Report

Loddon District and its constituent Groups has enjoyed another the good year of Scouting with all sorts of activities being organised by the various sections including lots of what I call adventurous activities – Water and Land based including Archery, Rifle Shooting, Canoeing, Paddle Boarding, Climbing and Abseiling as well as Hikes of various distances. There have also been a lot of Nights Away events organised for all sections from Beavers to Network including some abroad in Belgium.

The District continues to grow; Our five Squirrel Dreys go from strength to strength with two Dreys at 5th Woodley and one at 3rd Woodley, 99th Reading and 1st Twyford. I hope in the coming year we will see more Squirrel Dreys opening around the District.

Explorer Scouts remain strong with three meeting nights through the week on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesday, two now meet at 1st Hurst and one in the community hall at St Dominics Primary School in Woodley.

We have now transitioned to the ways of welcoming new volunteers and new teams based approach to working. The new digital membership management system has been live for about six months; challenges remain with the system and HQ are working to resolve these in the coming months.

Finally thank you to everyone in Loddon in whatever role you hold.

Geoff Barnes
Joint District Lead Volunteer
Loddon District

District Chairman's Report

Let me open by thanking everyone involved in Scouting in Loddon for all their support and energy during the last year.

We are very fortunate to have a District that is growing and thriving, and this can only happen with the dedication and commitment that we see so much in evidence across Loddon District.

The Scout Shop is part of our District of which we are very proud, it contributes strongly to our finances. Barbara and Ian are a few people short of what would help things function more efficiently, so please offer your support if you are able for a couple of hours every 4-6 weeks during term time.

The PP Building Project moves forward, albeit quite slowly. The Earley Charity have generously contributed £100,000 towards our plan for a new building at Paddick's Patch. There are a few hurdles to overcome, and we continue to fundraise. Let's hope we see the fruits of our labours soon. Especial thanks to Tony Parker for all the work he is doing to make things a reality with a new building and to Keith Walker for his wise counsel, professional input and endeavour.

So, there is always plenty going on in the District and whether it's the individual Groups or Explorers we have much for which to be grateful as we look ahead with faith and hope for the period ahead.

Berkshire County continue to support us well and we are indeed fortunate to have them behind us.

All best wishes for another top year of Scouting.

Donald MacDonald
District Chair of Trustees

**LODDON DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
DISTRICT TREASURER'S REPORT Y/E 31/03/2025**

The district accounts for 2024/25 have been prepared as required by the Charities Act 2011.

Total Assets stood at £187,502 as at 31st March 2025 (£128,331 31/3/24). This significant increase is largely due to donations towards the new building at Paddicks Patch.

The bank balance includes restricted funds totalling £103,784 which are used for specific purposes. Details of individual funds can be found in the Notes to the Accounts statement.

A surplus of Income over Expenditure of £59,171 was generated.

The Scout Shop generated a surplus of £2,153 similar to last year. Explorers generated a surplus of £3,881 (23/24 £5,193) after allowing for the costs of the Netherlands trip after the year end. The District continues to subsidise the use of Paddicks Patch for the benefit of local groups to the extent of £2,200 this year. A similar amount to last year.

The District Executive Committee considers that the district should hold a sum equivalent to 12 months running costs in reserve and we continue to meet this requirement.

The Paddicks Patch Project continues to incur some minor expenditure (£1,721) but has also received £39,259 in donations.

The Receipts and Payment account and a Statement of Assets and Liabilities for Loddon District Scout Council can be viewed in the attachments to this report.

We thank all the Group Treasurers, Group Scout Leaders and Trustees for their continued support.

**Simon Roberts
District Treasurer**

LODDON DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

Receipts and Payments Account Summary for the year ended 31st March 2025

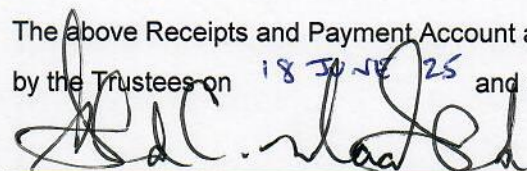
Charity No. 276613

	2024/25 Unrestricted Funds	2024/25 Restricted Funds	2024/25 Total Funds	2023/24 Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Total receipts for year	82,143	40,681	122,824	57,162
Total payments for year end	61,467	2,186	63,653	49,396
Net of receipts/(payments) for year	20,676	38,495	59,171	7,766
Transfer between funds	-	-	-	-
	20,676	38,495	59,171	7,766
Cash, bank & other net assets b/fwd	63,042	65,289	128,331	120,565
Cash, bank & other net assets c/fwd	83,718	103,784	187,502	128,331

Summary of Assets and Liabilities at 31st March 2025

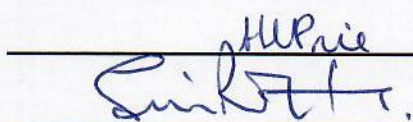
	2024/25 Unrestricted Funds	2024/25 Restricted Funds	2024/25 Total Funds	2023/24 Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
MONETARY ASSETS				
Bank Balances	102,332	103,784	206,116	134,687
Cash In Hand	55	-	55	98
	102,387	103,784	206,171	134,785
OTHER MONETARY ASSETS				
Debts due from Group	-	-	-	-
NON-MONETARY ASSETS				
Scout Shop Stock	11,732	-	11,732	11,239
	114,119	103,784	217,903	146,024
LIABILITIES -prepaid subs & other adv pymts	30,401	-	30,401	17,693
Net Assets	83,718	103,784	187,502	128,331

The above Receipts and Payment Account and Summary of Asset and Liabilities were approved by the Trustees on 18 JUNE 25 and signed on their behalf



Donald MacDonald

District Chair



Helen Price

District Secretary



Simon Roberts

District Treasurer

LODDON DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

Receipts and Payments Account

Receipts for the year ended 31st March 2025

	2024/25 Unrestricted funds £	2024/25 Restricted funds £	2024/25 Total funds £	2023/24 Total funds £
RECEIPTS				
Donations, legacies and similar income				
Membership subscriptions	68,167	-	68,167	62,998
Less: Membership subscriptions paid on (National/County/Area/District)	(62,552)	-	(62,552)	(56,589)
Net membership subscriptions retained	5,615	-	5,615	6,409
Donations	-	-	-	-
Gift Aid	7,393	-	7,393	-
Other similar income/Legacy	-	39,259	39,259	500
Sub total	13,008	39,259	52,267	6,909
Grants				
Paddicks Patch Project	-	-	-	-
International Fund	-	1,142	1,142	1,105
Berkshire Scouts Jamboree	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	1,142	1,142	1,105
Fundraising (gross)				
Cubs/Beavers	-	280	280	288
Scouts	6,161	-	6,161	2,967
Explorer	55,236	-	55,236	38,446
Scout Active Support Unit	-	-	-	-
Paddicks Patch	941	-	941	2,162
Other District fundraising events	-	-	-	-
Sub total	62,338	280	62,618	43,863
Investment income				
Bank interest(COIF)	4,644	-	4,644	3,167
Scout Shop	2,153	-	2,153	2,118
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
Sub total	6,797	-	6,797	5,285
Total Gross Income	82,143	40,681	122,824	57,162
To COIF a/c	-	-	-	-
Total Receipts	82,143	40,681	122,824	57,162

LODDON DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

Receipts and Payments Account

Payments for the year ended 31st March 2025

	2024/25 Unrestricted funds £	2024/25 Restricted funds £	2024/25 Total funds £	2023/24 Total funds £
PAYMENTS				
Charitable Payments				
Premises - Paddicks Patch	3,141		3,141	4,326
Premises - Scout Shop	-	-	-	385
Section Expenses	-	-	-	-
International Fund	-	-	-	-
AGM and trustee expenses	1,055	-	1,055	1,191
Insurance	52	-	52	261
Independent Examiners Fees	31	-	31	27
Adult support and training	-	-	-	-
General Expenses	-	-	-	355
Grants	-	200	200	-
Fundraising Fees	-	-	-	-
Paddicks Patch Project	-	1,721	1,721	3,598
Berkshire Scouts Jamboree		-	-	-
Sub total	4,279	1,921	6,200	10,143
Section Activities				
Cubs/Beavers	-	265	265	383
Scouts	3,157	-	3,157	5,617
Explorer Scouts	51,355	-	51,355	33,253
Scout Active Support Unit	2,284	-	2,284	-
Other fundraising costs- District Events	392	-	392	-
Sub total	57,188	265	57,453	39,253
Total Gross Expenditure	61,467	2,186	63,653	49,396
To COIF a/c		-	-	-
Total Payments	61,467	2,186	63,653	49,396
Net of receipts/(payments)	20,676	38,495	59,171	7,766
Transfers between funds			-	-
Net assets last year end	63,042	65,289	128,331	120,565
Net assets this year end	83,718	103,784	187,502	128,331

LODDON DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

Statement of assets and liabilities as at 31st March 2025

	2024/25 Unrestricted funds £	2024/25 Restricted funds £	2024/25 Total funds £	2023/24 Total funds £
Cash funds				
Bank-Loddon District Scout Council	35,730	-	35,730	43,198
Bank- COIF Deposit Fund	29,177	103,784	132,961	68,317
Bank- Scout Shop Account	3,109	-	3,109	3,427
Bank- District Scout Account	3,187	-	3,187	183
Bank- Explorer Scout Account	31,129	-	31,129	17,299
Bank-Loddon Scout Active Support	-	-	-	2,263
Cash/Floats	55	-	55	98
Total cash funds	102,387	103,784	206,171	134,785
Other monetary assets				
Tax claim	-	-	-	-
Debts due from the County/Area/District/Group	-	-	-	-
Insurance claim	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-
Investment assets				
Other investments - detail	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-
Non monetary assets for charity's own use				
Shop items & Badges stock	11,732	-	11,732	11,239
Other	-	-	-	-
Sub total	11,732	-	11,732	11,239
Liabilities				
Accounts not yet paid	-	-	-	-
Expenses incurred but not invoiced	-	-	-	-
Subscriptions paid in advance	20,452	-	20,452	17,693
Loan - detail	-	-	-	-
Other liabilities	9,949	-	9,949	-
Sub total	30,401	-	30,401	17,693
Net assets	83,718	103,784	187,502	128,331

NON-MONETARY ASSETS

(based on insurance values)	<u>Explorer Scouts</u>	<u>Loddon District - Paddicks&Shop</u>
Buildings	26,364	81,714
Contents&Equipment	38,742	31,336
Trailers	12,721	-

LODDON DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

Notes to accompany the Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting by Charities 2005 (SORP 2005), the Charities Act 1996 and applicable accounting standards.

2. MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

The gross figure includes subscriptions due to Headquarters and County.

3. DONATIONS / GRANT / SIMILAR INCOME

The amount of £39,259 was received as donations towards the PP Project.

4. INTERNATIONAL FUND

The fund has received £1,142 from the Active Support Unit and paid out £200 to support a scout attending Rovaway.

5. FUNDS

Unrestricted funds represent the funds of this Council that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the Council are deemed as restricted funds and are summarised below. The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which this Council is responsible in law.

The total Restricted Funds for the year are £103,784.

<u>Restricted Fund</u>	International Fund	Beavers a/c	Paddicks Patch Fund
Balances as at 31st March 2025	£4,763	£571	£98,450

6. PADDICKS PATCH

This wooded area of land in Waingels Road was donated to Loddon District Scouts in 1982 by Sidney Paddick for use as a camp site. In September 1990, a prefabricated building was donated by Barclays Bank and erected on the site. This is now the Loddon District Headquarters. The building will be reconstructed, and detailed planning work is currently being undertaken following receipt of full planning permission.

7. SECTIONS

The District Scout Explorers, Scout Active Support Unit and District Scouts maintain separate accounts. The District Cub and Beaver funds are included as restricted funds within the main account. The Scout Active Support Unit was wound up during the year.

8. LODDON DISTRICT SCOUT SHOP

Scout shop items have been valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. The Scout Shop maintains a separate account. The shop made a contribution of £2,153 to District funds in the year.

9. TRUSTEE EXPENSES

Trustees received expenses totalling £1,055 in the year to 31/3/25.

10. PUBLIC INTEREST

The District Council meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings. The Trustees have had regard to the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission when deciding upon the activities for the year.

Independent Examiner's report to the trustees of LODDON DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31st March 2025.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act

to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (S)(b) 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.

to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

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 Trust 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.

Name:

Signed:

Address

Date:

Michael Upmole



6 SEVENOAK, PHOENIX
SPENCERS LODGE

1267 1A2

8th June 2025



Section Report 2024-25

Loddon now has five Squirrel Dreys open, and all are enjoying a wide range of activities, they are doing lots of Challenges and are gaining Activity Badges. We have seen our first Chief Scouts Acorn Awards being awarded and Squirrels are now moving on to Beaver Colonies.

There was a Christmas Party organised jointly between 3rd and 5th Woodley and I hope we will see more District wide events organised for Squirrels in the coming year. Like Cubs, this section needs a team and team leader to co-ordinate the organising of some events and to support Leaders in running good programmes - anyone who would like to take this role on please get in touch with me for a chat.

Geoff Barnes
District Lead Volunteer

LODDON BEAVER SCOUT SECTION REPORT JUNE 2025

We have 18 colonies across the District all with Leader Teams determined to provide excellent programmes for our young people.

Over the year our Beaver Scouts have taken part in Sleepovers, Camps, Campfires, Cooking Marshmallows, Smores or Dampers over a fire, Litter Picking, Hikes, Nature Walks, Archery, Climbing, Katanuig, Water Rockets, Den building, Remembrance Day Services, Treasure Hunts to name just a few. Add in games, cooking, crafts and lots of badge work and that is some of what is on offer for our Beaver Scouts.

All these activities have ensured that many Beavers have earned their Chief Scout Bronze Awards while having a lot of fun.

Just one District Beaver event was run during the past year – the famous Beaver Scout Christmas Party. Unfortunately, this year only 12 colonies could join in the fun but the 124 children who could attend enjoyed Fred in the Shed's excellent entertainment, a snack tea and a visit from the Santa who distributed present bags to all. A great afternoon of entertainment enjoyed by all.

Some colonies attended the County Adventure day in March where they enjoyed a range of exciting activities and all who attended earned their Adventure Challenge. Although tiring it was a great day with the only drawback being the long queues for the most popular bases!

On behalf of the Beaver Scouts of Loddon I must say a big thank you to all the leaders & their supporters who provide such a wide range of activities and make the fun happen every week.

Jane Moore
Loddon District Leadership Team



Section Report 2024-25

All Packs have enjoyed a great range of activities both on their respective meeting nights and on Nights Away and Days Out.

Due to various reasons no District Cub events were held during the last twelve months. I hope that during the coming twelve months we will see District events for Cubs restarting.

This section needs a Team Leader and Team to co-ordinate the organising of some events and to support Leaders in running good programmes - anyone who would like to take this role on please get in touch with me for a chat !

Geoff Barnes
District Lead Volunteer

Loddon District Network Section Report 2024-25

Our Network section has been busy this year. Notable achievements are that Chris Faulkner received his Kings Scout Award and attended the Day of Celebration at Windsor. Corner Wallace received his Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award. Well done to both of them.

Malcolm Fillingham
Loddon Network Coordinator

Loddon District Safety Report

All groups have been asked to complete the premises safety audit form available on the Scout website. Even if a group is meeting in rented premises this is important and the existing premises risk assessments should be available to see if they cover use of the premises when sectional meetings take place. In particular problems using the building when it is dark. Is the site adequately lit to allow safe evacuation of the building? Should the fire assembly point be different from that assigned for daytime use?

Work parties have been meeting at PP on a monthly basis to get the site ready for summer meetings. The activity trail has been repaired and made safe. Ash dieback is causing a risk of falling timber around the fire circle. This part of the site will remain closed until these trees have been made safe. Also trees overhanging Waingels Road will also be made safe. All required permits for this work have now been obtained. Work will commence in the Autumn. However, to manage risks the fire circle part of the site will be closed if winds in excess of 40 mph are forecast.

As part of my membership of the County safety team two one to one sessions and a one day course for prospective PAT Testers have been organised.

Robin Phillips
District Safety Coordinator

LODDON DISTRICT SCOUT SHOP

Total sales for the year were £30,167 of which £19,328 (64%) was for Loddon District, £9,471 (31%) was Wokingham and £1,367 (4.5%) was other. This was about 11% up on last year, but taking into account that prices have increased approximately 10% so basically it was on a par with 2024.

Badge sales of £14,152 represented 47% of the turnover, of which Loddon groups purchased £8,487 Wokingham £5,370 and others £295.

More groups are paying for badges by direct bank transfer, thus saving us paying any bank charges. General purchases are predominantly paid by card for which we incurred £265 in transaction fees.

The sale of uniform continues to be steady, mostly at the start of term, but it is obvious that some parents are preferring the convenience of purchasing online direct from Scout store.

We were able to return £1,428 to groups in the form of 10% rebates and transferred £2,000 surplus funds to the District. However, in future, group rebates might have to be reviewed as Scout Store has now reduced the discount from 20% to 10% for all purchases by District Scout Shops

As in previous years we would appreciate more help with serving at the shop, particularly on Saturday mornings. We do not allocate more than 3 sessions per term to our already busy helpers, and we are having to cover the rest.

Barbara and Ian Loring