



Gordano Scout District Annual General Meeting

24th June 2025

19:30 for 19:45

**The Lodge
Glenny Wood Campsite**

Trustees Report 2024 / 25

Charity Commission registered number – 289643

Scout Association reference number – 16710

Introduction

Trustees

<i>Phil Woolcock – Chair (Retiring June 25)</i>	<i>Phil Savage – Treasurer (Elected until June 27)</i>
<i>LDV nominated trustee – Simon Kelly</i>	<i>Steve Hamey (Retiring June 25)</i>
<i>Tony Tween (Elected until June 27)</i>	<i>Abi Purvis – Co-opted January 2025</i>

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Formal AGM Introduction -

The District is managed by the District Trustee Board, the members of which are the 'Charity Trustees' of Gordano District, which is an educational charity. As charity trustees they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping of proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.

The Trustee Board currently consists of the Chair, Treasurer and 4 Trustees (including 1 Ex Officio Trustee, and 1 co-opted Trustee) and meets every 3 months.

The District Trustee Board exists to make sure the charity is well-managed, risks are assessed and mitigated, buildings and equipment are in good working order, and everyone follows legal requirements and the organisation's policies and rules. Their support helps other volunteers run high-quality and safe programmes that gives young people skills for life.

Governance -

1. The District's governing documents are those of the The Scout Association. They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and The Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.
2. The District is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Scouts.
3. The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association

GORDANO DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

Annual General Meeting

24th June 2025 – 7:45 pm
Glenny Wood Scout Campsite Lodge

AGENDA

- 1. Introduction and welcome**
- 2. Apologies for absence**
- 3. Governance topics**
 - a. Approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 4th July 2024
 - b. Adopt the model constitution from Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR)
 - c. Note the District's financial year – (January to December)
 - d. Agree the number of members that may be appointed to the Trustee Board – (AGM 2024 12 members agreed)
 - e. Agree the quorum for future meetings of the District Scout Council (2024 - 12 members set as the quorum)
- 4. Review of the previous year**
 - a. The District Lead Volunteer's review of Scouting during the past 12 months
 - b. Receive and consider the Annual Report of the Group Trustee Board, including the annual Statement of the Accounts
- 5. Making appointments**
 - a. Appoint the District Chair, following recommendation from the District Trustee Board
 - b. Appoint members of the District Trustee Board
 - c. Appoint District President
 - d. Appoint Independent Examiner
 - e. Nomination of representatives to the Avon Scout Council:

Closing remarks

Minutes of the Gordano District Annual General Meeting
Held on Thursday 4 July 2023 @ 19.45 hrs.
At Glenny Wood Lodge.

Present:

Tony Tween, Stephen Hamey, Simon Kelly, Michael Clark, Sean Davin, Angus Wardle, Jill Derrick, Andy Derrick, Phil Woolcock, Kath Woolcock, Phil Savage, Matt Jaroszewicz, Clive Sandrey, Jill Hobbs, Alex Woodman.

1) Welcome:

Tony Tween (Co-DC) opened the meeting and welcomed all those attending.

The meeting observed a minute's reflection in memory of our Scouting colleague, Vickie Farrall, who sadly passed away in the last year.

2) Apologies:

Liv Handley, Louise Hamey, Stephen Lisney, Nicole Jelliss, Heather Clark.

3) Approval the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 11 July 2023

The minutes were unanimously accepted by the meeting and there were no matters arising. Proposer – Jill Derrick, Seconder – Michael Clark

4) Governance Topics:

a) Adoption of model constitution from Policy, Organisation and Rules Chapter 5:

The meeting passed the resolution unanimously.

b) Note of the District's financial year:

The meeting was informed that the charity's financial year is 1st January to 31st December.

c) Agree the number of members that may be elected to the Trustee Board:

The outgoing Trustee Board proposed that the number of people that can be elected to the Trustee Board should be twelve. The proposal was passed unanimously by the meeting.

d) Agree the quorum for each of the District Scout Council, meetings of the Trustee Board, meetings of any sub-committees:

Phil Woolcock proposed that the quorum, the minimum number of District Scout Council members that must be present at a meeting of the District Scout Council, should be set at twelve.

The proposal was seconded by Angus Wardle and agreed unanimously by the meeting.

The meeting also, confirmed that the quorum for meetings of the Trustee Board and any sub-committees should be set at one third of the Trustee Board members plus one, in line with the Charity Commission statement of good practice.

5) Review of the previous year:

a) District Commissioner's Review of Scouting in the District:

The full text of the report was available in the District Annual Report, which was available at the meeting. Tony Tween (Co-DC) expanded on various elements of his report. He reported that the new District Lead Volunteer team would be Simon Kelly (Programme) Sean Davin (Volunteer Experience) and Nicole Jelliss (14 to 24 Sections). Sean and Simon gave brief briefings as to their remits. Finally, it was noted, by Clive Sandrey (County Lead Volunteer), that the compliance rate for Safety and Safeguarding training, in the District, was the best in the County at the time of the meeting.

b) To receive and consider the Annual Report of the Trustee Board including the Statement of Accounts:

Phil Savage (District Treasurer) gave additional information in support of the Statement of Accounts, noted that the District Trustee Board had approved the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts and the report on the accounts had been received from Lynette Morgan FCCA CTA, the Independent Examiner.

Sean Davin asked a question regarding any envisaged financial risks relating to Glenny Wood campsite. Phil Woolcock (Glenny Wood Chairman) replied that the Glenny Wood account held sufficient funds to cover any envisaged risks.

6) Making Appointments

a) Nomination of District Chair:

The Trustee Board proposed Phil Woolcock to be the Trustee Board Chair for a period of 3 years. The meeting unanimously accepted the proposal.

b) Election of the District Secretary:

No-one has been proposed for this role. Again, every effort will be made to resolve the issue shortly. This role is not a Trustee role.

c) Election of the District Treasurer:

The Trustee Board proposed Phil Savage to be District Treasurer for a period of 3 years. The meeting unanimously approved the proposal.

d) Election of persons to the District Trustee Board:

The Trustee Board proposed that the following be elected as Trustee for a period of 3 years.

Tony Tween, Steve Hamey, and George Wormald-Kelly.

The meeting unanimously approved the proposals.

There are no other nominations for persons to be on the Trustee Board. Effort will be made to increase the size and diversity of the Trustee Board in the coming months.

e) Appointment of the Independent Examiner:

Phil Savage noted that Lynette Morgan, who has been the Independent Examiner for several years has now retired. It has not been possible to propose an alternative examiner at present, but the Trustee Board will undertake to find a replacement at the earliest opportunity and confirm the appointment at the next AGM.

f) Nomination of representatives to the Avon Scout Council:

Two nominations can be made. Angus Wardle was nominated but, currently, it is not possible to make a second nomination.

7) Closing Remarks:

Clive Sandrey (County Lead Volunteer) gave a brief report form County and Long Service Awards were presented to the following:

Jill and Andy Derrick 30 Year awards

Angus Wardle 15 Year award

Tony Tween noted that both he and Steve Hamey will be stepping down from their Co-DC roles, by September, at the latest and thanked the District for their support over the last 11 years.

The meeting closed at 20.40 hrs.

District Lead Volunteers' Report

Group and ESU reports are attached at the end of this report. We thank all our leaders, volunteers and trustees for their dedicated commitment to providing another great year of Scouting to our young people in what has been a challenging year of change and transition.

2024-2025 – a Year of Change

Both Steve Hamey and Tony Tween have stepped down from their positions as District Commissioners having reached the end of their ten-year tenures. Phil Woolcock is also stepping down as District Chair and as Chairman of Glenny Wood. Kath Woolcock is also retiring and on behalf of all the members of Council we thank them all for their exceptional contribution and dedication to making Gordano District and Glenny Wood what it is today.

We currently have two new District Lead Volunteers – Simon Kelly who looks after Programme and Nicole Jelliss who is responsible for 14-24 provision. Sean Davin who was responsible for Volunteer Development has had to step down for family reasons and the Support role still remains vacant. We thank Sean for his contribution, and in the meantime Nicole and Simon will assume his responsibilities.

District Numbers

The 2025 Census recorded 1218 young people in Gordano, a 1% decrease from 2024 (1230). Adult members increased by 8% from 315 in 2024 to 341 currently and our overall waiting list increased 27% from 498 to 633 in the same period. 60% of the waiting list is made up of Squirrels and Beavers and for the first time we now have 15 young people waiting to join Explorers. Total sections across the District grew from 58 to 59 due to the opening of our first Squirrel Drey at 1st Clevedon.

Transformation

Since early November 2024 most of our time has been involved in supporting the implementation of the new membership system across the District. This is a totally new way of managing our volunteers and processes and is a challenging learning curve for all involved. All Compass data has now been migrated and we are in the process of finalising the District structure and roles. The major challenge has been trying to keep up with disclosures, training compliance, permit renewals and awards whilst we all get used to a new way of self-managed volunteer management and support. We still have around 180 volunteers who have not yet signed into the membership system – we are working hard to reduce this and have set up a District WhatsApp support group to share knowledge and assist those less technically savvy.

Our major short-term priority is to recruit more volunteers to the District team to spread the workload – particularly in the areas of programme, volunteer development and support (both of which still need a lead volunteer). Youth representation at District level is also important. We urgently require more nights away assessors and permitted leaders to cover adventurous activities - especially climbing and hill walking. Groups too need both programme support across all sections and help in recruiting more volunteers. Setting up Explorer provision in Clevedon again is a pressing priority to reduce the burden currently on Kilkenny. 1st Clevedon are the first in District to open a Squirrel Drey – their experience will be useful in giving other Groups the confidence to follow, but the 1:6 leader ratio and minimum of three adults for a section evening makes it a challenge for volunteer recruitment.

Ten Tors 2025

Gordano and Axe Districts celebrated their 50th year of participation in the Ten Tors Challenge with another amazing result that saw 21 teams successfully complete the 35, 45 and 55 mile challenge. Sue Ivens was awarded the Tri-Award by the Army – the highest volunteer award - for her exceptional contribution of over 50 years' service providing administration, accounting and catering to the event. There will be a large celebration of GATT 50 years at 1st Clevedon on Saturday 8 June to which all TT alumni are invited.

Managing the training and event itself for so many of our young people is becoming increasingly complex, so in July we plan to have a meeting to consider our future modus operandi as to how we continue to provide and resource this large event.

Explorers

The major priority is to set up the Salhouse Explorer Unit again in Clevedon so that this area has an Explorer provision that can take the pressure of Kilkenny in Portishead, which is at full capacity with a waiting list. The provision and continuation of Young Leader training and development is also important.

World Scout Jamboree

Planning is underway for the World Scout Jamboree in Poland during 2027 and we have invited Groups and ESUs to nominate potential participants as well as Adult IST volunteers. We hope, as in previous years, that we have a representative contingent from Gordano who can enjoy this amazing opportunity.

District Recruitment

As mentioned earlier, recruitment of District positions is a major priority and we would welcome new volunteers for the following roles...

- District Chair
- Chairperson for Glenny Wood
- Group Chairs – 2nd Clevedon, 2nd Portishead
- DLV – Support
- DLV – Volunteer Development
- GLV – Long Ashton and 1st Nailsea
- Explorer Leaders for Clevedon and Nailsea
- Nights Away Assessors
- First Response first aid trainer who can validate first response learning
- Youth Leaders
- Media and communications
- Glenny volunteers

And Finally...

We remember colleagues who passed away in the last year.

David Burnett (Bas) was deeply committed to Scouting in both Gordano and latterly Axe and was well known in his roles as a Venture Scout leader and for his support of Ten Tors both as a manager and instructor.

Mick Bryant was a former GSL at 2nd Clevedon who was instrumental in helping the Group rebuild its HQ building after it was destroyed by fire and providing dedicated and steady leadership to grow the Group again.

Nicole Jelliss and Simon Kelly

District Lead Volunteers

Trustees report July 2024 to June 2025

This is the first year we have undertaken the Trustees role as re modelled by The Scout Association (TSA) during 2023. Much of the year therefore has been putting in place the systems and processes to meet the Scout Association requirements - *A Trustee is a volunteer who is legally responsible for the management and governance of the District. They ensure the organization operates safely, legally, and in line with its charitable purpose. Trustee Boards, composed of these volunteers, focus on strategy, performance, and assurance.*

We have had a successful year getting the foundations in place to be built upon over the next years. Below are the key areas identified and what has happened over the year.

- **Meetings Plan** - set up quarterly meetings with an annual plan to ensure the key areas the Trustees are responsible for are covered.
- **Finance** – The separate report details our strong financial position and the actions taken during the year
- **Policy Compliance** – Monitoring of TSA Safeguarding policies, Training, Safety etc as it related to Gordano. No serious issues to concern the Trustees
- **Buildings** - Glenny Wood, with a separate report detailing the great progress made.
- **Insurance** – Confirmation the necessary insurance policies are in place and renewed.
- **Risk Management** – District risk register created and to be regularly review and developed
- **Lead District Volunteers** – Support / advice provided as requested.
- **Trustee Recruitment** – Not an easy task. Informal plan being progressed.
- **AGM / Annual Report / Charity reporting** – ensuring this takes place to TSA requirements.

My aim in this one year of Chairing the trustees was to ensure we all set up the correct approach for the future. This I believe has happened and its now the right time for a new Chair to come on board for the longer term.

I would like to thank all the Trustees and Lead District Volunteers for their hard work and support to Gordano District Scouts and wish them every success going forward. I would also like to thank Steve Hamey who is retiring as a Trustee after many years serving on the District Executive / Trustee board.

Copies of both the 2024 and 2025 AGM papers can also be found online at <https://glennywood.org.uk/home/gordano-agm/>

The Trustees of Gordano District Scout Council confirm this report is accepted and agreed on 2nd June 2025

Phil Woolcock

District Chair – July 2024 to June 2025.

On behalf of the Gordano Scout District Trustees

GORDANO DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL - Annual Statement of Accounts – Treasurer's Report – 2024

Below is a true record of the District Consolidated Accounts for the Year 1st January - 31st December 2024.

They have been certified by our professional independent examiner, whose report is also attached.

Overall, income broadly matched expenditure during 2024; cash funds reduced by around £800.

The Consolidated Accounts show that funds are in a very healthy position with around £50,000 in the District account and a further £24,000 funds held by Glenny Wood Campsite.

The District's Explorer Scout Units and the Ten Tors teams each manage their own finances. All the accounts for 2024 have been independently examined by myself or the Chair of the Trustee Board. I confirm that all the units have been managed to the Scouts POR and that they have sufficient funds to carry out their scouting activities.

Glenny Wood income from bookings by external parties and scouting organisations outside Gordano District increased by £1,500 compared to 2023 to over £18,000. This income has helped us to improve facilities at the site and £6,000 has been spent on new facilities such as the Boundary Walk, the Highlands Development, and the Maple Campfire.

Phil Savage

District Treasurer.

On behalf of the Gordano Scout District Trustees

Gordano District Scout Council

Consolidated Receipts and Payments Account 2024

	01/01/2024 to 31/12/2024	01/01/2024 to 31/12/2024	01/01/2024 to 31/12/2024	01/01/2023 to 31/12/2023
Receipts and Payments Account	District General A/c	District Glenny Wood Operational Account	Total District Accounts 2024	Total District Accounts 2023
Receipts				
Membership subscriptions	£75,578		£75,578	£76,616
Less: Membership subscriptions paid	£60,950		£60,950	£60,288
Net membership subscriptions retained	£14,628	£0	£14,628	£16,328
Other income -				
Git Aid	£1,339		£1,339	£1,078
Donations, legacies etc.	£250		£250	£2,494
Grants			£0	£0
Other income	£2,553		£2,553	£131
Sub total	£4,142	£0	£4,142	£3,703
Operational Income -				
Programme & Events	£125		£125	£9,815
World Scout Jamboree attendees fundraising			£0	£4,300
Glenny Wood - Rental		£18,749	£18,749	£17,278
Glenny Wood - Utilities refund				
Glenny Wood - Shop sales		£334	£334	£930
Glenny Wood - Equipment usage			£0	£0
Scout Shop - Sales			£0	£0
Scout Badge Sales	£612		£612	£1,701
Misc / Donations			£0	£152
First Aid training	£400		£400	£500
Sub total	£1,137	£19,083	£20,220	£34,676
Investment income -				
Bank Interest	£436	£342	£778	£564
Sub total	£436	£342	£778	£564
Total Gross Income	£20,343	£19,425	£39,768	£55,271
Asset and investment sales, etc.	£0	£0	£0	£0
TOTAL RECEIPTS	£20,343	£19,425	£39,768	£55,271

Gordano District Scout Council

Consolidated Receipts and Payments Account 2024

	01/01/2024 to 31/12/2024	01/01/2024 to 31/12/2024	01/01/2024 to 31/12/2024	01/01/2023 to 31/12/2023
Receipts and Payments Account	District General A/c	District Glenny Wood Operational Account	Total District Accounts 2024	Total District Accounts 2023
Charitable Payments -				
Programme & Events	£475		£475	£12,188
World Scout Jamboree			£0	£6,140
Adult Support and Training	£470		£470	£630
Partnership Agreements (Hall Hire)			£0	£0
Shop			£0	£0
Health & Safety		£6,303	£6,303	£7,133
Utilities		£4,399	£4,399	£3,888
Insurance	£52	£923	£975	£946
Maintenance		£13,834	£13,834	£5,595
Development		£5,986	£5,986	£10,840
Minor Equipment	£1,545	£1,307	£2,852	£1,396
Admin & Expenses	£91		£91	£210
Donations			£0	£494
Gift Aid to sections	£1,922		£1,922	£1,078
Auditor Fees	£150		£150	£150
Bank Charges & Go Card-less Fees	£87		£87	£84
Grant To Groups	£1,500		£1,500	£173
Young Leaders	£322		£322	£0
Uniform	£19		£19	£0
Music Licence fees	£479		£479	£437
Sub total	£7,112	£32,752	£39,864	£51,382
Other Expenditure -				
Badge purchases & postage	£673	£8	£681	£1,270
Scout Shop purchases			£0	£0
Sub total	£673	£8	£681	£1,270
Total Gross Expenditure	£7,785	£32,760	£40,545	£52,652
Total Payments	£7,785	£32,760	£40,545	£52,652
Net of Receipts/(Payments)	£12,558	-£13,335	-£777	£2,619
Cash funds last year end	£47,503	£27,912	£75,415	£72,796
Glenny Wood User agreement	-£9,508	£9,508	£0	£0
Cash Funds This Year End	£50,553	£24,085	£74,638	£75,415

Gordano District Scout Council

Consolidated Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31/12/2024

	31/12/24	31/12/24	31/12/24	31/12/23
	District General A/c	District Glenny Wood Operational Account	Total District Accounts 2024	Total District Accounts 2023
Cash funds				
Bank current account - Lloyds	£32	£452	£484	£15,440
Bank current account – Santander				
Bank deposit account – Lloyds:-		£23,599	£23,599	£25,257
World Scout Jamboree Fund	£3,485		£3,485	£2,485
District Contingency fund	£5,000		£5,000	£5,000
Portishead Development Fund	£485		£485	£1,985
Growth & Development Fund	£19,907		£19,907	£19,907
District Events Fund	£5,000		£5,000	£5,000
Clevedon ESU	£2,401		£2,401	£2,000
General Funds & Unattributed Interest	£14,243		£14,243	£307
Cash		£34	£34	£34
Total Cash Funds	£50,553	£24,085	£74,638	£77,415
Other Monetary Assets				
Debtors	£0	£0	£0	£0
Debts due	£0	£0	£0	£0
Sub total	£0	£0	£0	£0
Investment assets				
Investment property - detail	£0	£0	£0	£0
Sub total	£0	£0	£0	£0
Non monetary assets for charity's own use				
District Badge stock – core badges	£948		£948	£584
District Badge stock – other badges			£0	£628
Glenny Shop stock		£1,196	£1,196	£1,247
Land (net of depreciation)		£60,000	£60,000	£60,000
Buildings (net of depreciation)		£11,387	£11,387	£11,387
Motor vehicles (net of depreciation)		£0	£0	£0
Equipment (net of depreciation)		£6,751	£6,751	£7,715
Other			£0	£0
Sub total	£948	£79,334	£80,282	£81,561
Liabilities				
Accounts not yet paid			£0	£131
Expenses incurred - Not paid				
Other				
Sub total	£0	£0	£0	£131
Contingent liabilities and future obligations	£0	£0	£0	£0

GORDANO DISTRICT SECTION ACCOUNTS	Cash funds Dec 2024	Total receipts in 2024	Total Expenditure in 2024	Cash funds Dec 2023
Barracuda ESU	£9,557	£18,664	£13,328	£4,221
Clevedon ESU / PCC Ten Tors	£1,176	£1,774	£3,370	£2,772
Horizon ESU	£3,028	£6,393	£5,999	£2,634
Kilkenny ESU	£5,955	£15,818	£14,608	£4,745
Ten Tors	£2,428	£25,275	£27,673	£4,826
Ten Tors - 45/55	£11,534	£12,613	£12,000	£10,921
Sec on Account - District total	£33,678	£80,537	£76,978	£30,119

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

GORDANO DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

I report on the accounts of the Group/District/County/Area for the year ended 12.2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes set out on pages.....

This report is made solely to the trustees in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees for my examination work.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under Section 145 of the Charities Act);
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Group/District and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *):

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act ;and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or

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

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply

Name: DAWN BETTNEY

Qualification: FCA

Address: UNIT 1 THE ARCADE

69 HIGH ST NAILSEA BS48 1AW

Date - 05/03/2025 - LT900006

Glenny Wood Scout Campsite

Review January 2024 to June 2025

We have had yet another busy 18 months at Glenny Wood, with the focus on opening parts of the site which have not been in use before.

Site Usage - The overall usage for 2024 is up by 11% to 6343 visitors. Around three quarters of all these visitors were from Gordano District.

Safety – Ensuring we run a safe site is key to our mindset and key measures continue to be in place and reviewed to ensure they are fit for purpose.

Woodlands – The sites woodland environment is our key safety challenge. We continue to employ a Arboriculture specialist to undertake the annual tree inspection. Following a review of the recommendations, planning permission was then obtained, and the work completed. Most of this felling works is due to Ash Dieback. We regularly check the trees, bi-monthly and after a significant storm.

Annual Safety Checks – We have several annual checks undertaken by professional people in addition to the Trees, these include Water testing for Bacteria and Legionella, all negative, Fire Extinguishers, Site heating boiler as well as electrical PAT testing.

Weekly safety checks - We have a programme of our own site checks which cover the whole site, including Woodlands, Lodge, Loos, Activities and equipment. Any issues identified are quickly resolved.

Site Improvement – As in previous years many hundreds of maintenance tasks have been undertaken during 2024/25. There is a huge amount of maintenance required at Glenny Wood, some through natural causes, others self-inflicted by site users!

In addition, we look to improve our site. This year this has included,

- The necessary safety Tree felling and pollarding has been completed along with the planting of 38 mature trees we purchased, plus an additional 10 Apple Trees donated by Thatchers Cider, helping to create our Apple Orchard and 420 very small saplings from the Woodland Trust.
- Creation of the boundary trail, an interactive challenge taking you around the site to places never visited before. Work continues as we look to extend the trail at the top end of the site.
- The Stream has been re-routed near the loo block and opened up rather than being through underground pipes. The significant tree planting in early 2025 has really made this a great new feature for the site
- Work commenced opening up the land at the far end of the site, now known as the Highlands. We are creating this new and unique area as a Wild Camping and Backwoods activities area. This will be intentionally very basic and wild, with two plateaus, simple loo facilities in place and both bivy bags and Hammocks available for people to use.
- Revamped the Lodge Veranda, including new decking, posters, pictures and notices
- Bug Hotel built and looking good
- Maple – Our new Campfire below the Apple Orchard
- Composting area built allowing for plant cuttings, Autumn leaf fall etc to rot down so we create our own fertiliser to use on site
- Clearance of the massive rotting Woodpile by the tree walk.
- Creation of the Historic area with the capped mine shafted boarded off, historical information provided and in 2025 a simulated old coal mining sheave wheel mechanism has been installed
- Revamped the Grass Sledge area, with a new storage shed and artificial grass for the Grass Sledge run
- In January 2025 we have launched our 60th Anniversary year celebrations with a badge to all Gordano members and a special challenge for all site users to participate in.
- Planning permission has just been applied for to greatly improve the lodge sleeping accommodation. We have applied for 5 sleeping cabins and a loo block cabin. We await the outcome, then next it is funding for this development
- Over the years the feedback continues to be very positive from site users, appreciating the Glenny Wood site and the range of activities and facilities available

Making this happen – The team - We have a very hard-working team of Angus, Jill, Andy, Phil S, Tony and myself who are there on Wednesdays, undertaking safety checks, maintaining and improving our site.

Mark comes in twice monthly and he spends the day strimming, helping to keep nature at bay and has made a big difference.

During the year Tamsyn and Kasia are on site each week, cleaning the loos, showers, lodge and Fridge and freezers. What a fabulous difference they make. Many thanks to both.

The Site Bookings via OSM is an essential role, which is well looked after by Alison.

A mega thanks to the team for their hard work, commitment, and achievements.

During the past months we have also seen work volunteering teams from the 2nd Portishead and 2nd Clevedon Scouts Troops and firms volunteering - from Lloyds Bank, Ping Identity and Bristol University. We thank them for all their help and hard work.

We hope great fun has been had by all when at Glenny Wood and many skills developed.

And finally, this is my last report as the Warden / Chairman of Glenny Wood, after some 48 years as a leader / commissioner, 19 of them running Glenny Wood, I have decided to step back from active Scouting and to let others take on the role of leading Glenny Wood. <https://glennywood.org.uk/home/vacancies/#Phil-W-retires>

I have had a fabulous time developing the site, seeing the activities introduced and the overall improvement made. I wish those continuing and taking on the challenge every success and enjoyment at Glenny Wood Scout Campsite. During my leadership of the site what has been achieved has only been possible with the support and help of many, many people who have put a lot of time, effort, and commitment, it is my heartfelt thanks to the current dedicated team, and to all those involved with Glenny Wood over the past 19 years

Phil Woolcock

Volunteer Site Chairman & Warden

November 2006 – June 2025

<https://glennywood.org.uk>

Group Reports

Barracuda Explorers

It's been another good year for the unit with numbers up to 46 and a 85% attendance average throughout the year. Our leader numbers have also grown with 5 regular uniformed leaders helping out.

We have managed to put on a number of popular and successful events over the past 12 months, starting with our Summer Camp which saw us walk the Camino Ingles from Reading to Southampton. Staying at Scout huts along the 70-mile route, that follows the path pilgrims made on their way to Santiago de Compostela in north-west Spain, we hiked for 5 days and had a couple of rest days in between. The weather was glorious and there was a real sense of achievement when we reached journey's end.

Other events have included the London Monopoly Run, a Winter Camp in South Molton, and most recently the Rickard Shield where we were proud that one of our teams came in second place. Ten Tors remains as popular as ever with the unit well represented across all 3 challenges.

Iain Rhodes – Explorer Lead Volunteer

Kilkenny Explorers

This year has seen a number of gatherings and events within the Kilkenny Explorer Scout Unit, providing a variety of experiences for our young members. Throughout the year, there were numerous meetings, ranging from planning for a fundraising event to engaging activities like scavenger hunts, rounders, and campfire challenges. Events such as the West Country Waterpark and the various caving or cooking options offered exciting opportunities for hands-on activities.

The past year's events were equally diverse and engaging. The strategy camp in June provided an excellent opportunity for members to develop critical thinking and teamwork over a three-day period. Additionally, the discover scuba diving experiences throughout July and August allowed participants to learn new skills underwater. The Wye Valley weekend camp in September and the Sodbury Challenge in October further enriched the adventure experiences, encouraging camaraderie and resilience among the scouts. Other highlights included the pantomime in December, the energetic inflatable 5k in July, and the moving Remembrance Parade in November.

With the cancellation of some anticipated events, including the Woodhouse Weekender and the International Night, we appreciate the flexibility and understanding of everyone involved. Nevertheless, opportunities still arose for community contributions, such as the litter pick and beach barbecue, which not only benefited our surroundings but also allowed members to bond over shared efforts. Toward the end of the term, events like the Bring & Share session added a sense of closure and celebration of the year's achievements.

We express our gratitude to all leaders for their continuous dedication and support, particularly during the planning and execution of activities. The effort put in by many ensures that we can offer rich experiences to our young explorers.

As we take a moment to reflect on the past year, we extend our thanks to the children for making each meeting enjoyable and to parents for their ongoing support. Their involvement truly matters in making our Explorer Unit thrive, and it is heartening to see how these experiences contribute positively to our young people's

development. We look forward to another fulfilling year of Scouting, building on these foundations of learning, adventure, and personal growth.

Scott Bryant – Explorer Lead Volunteer

Horizon Explorers

This year has been an enjoyable 12 months for the Horizon Explorers, with various activities that provided both fun and learning opportunities for everyone involved. We held a range of meetings, including engaging evenings at the 1st Nailsea HQ focusing on cooking challenges, knots, and blindfold challenges. Notable activities like long exposure photography at Cumberland Basin and pioneering at Glenny Wood allowed our Explorers to explore new skills and broaden their horizons. Away from the HQ we have been 10 pin bowling, escape rooms, caving and much more.

We have had success at Ten Tors with 6 Explorers completing 35 miles and 3 completing the 45 mile distance.

Throughout the year, our members enjoyed a wealth of events. A highlight was our summer camp, which took place on Exmoor. This not only included hiking to Dunkerry Beacon but also offered the experience of volunteering with the Exmoor National Park Rangers, which was a valuable opportunity for our scouts to contribute to the local environment. Additionally, we took part in exciting events such as the Monopoly Run in London and walked around the Bristol Light Festival.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to our leaders Alex and Heather and particularly Michael and Maisie, who joined us in July 2024. Their commitment and involvement have greatly enriched our group and provided invaluable support to the Explorers throughout the year.

Looking ahead, our members are looking forward to an exciting summer camp where they will have two days of canoeing down the River Wye, alongside camping, which is bound to offer new adventures and plenty of fun.

Heather Clark – Explorer Lead Volunteer

Gordano Scout Group Reports

1st Portishead Scout Group

This year, was generally a period of stability for 1st Portishead Scouts; the numbers of adult volunteers remained largely constant with no substantial changes within the numbers of young people in the sections. There was however a solidifying of the Trustee Board with the newly appointed Chair and Treasurer making effective changes in policy and communications to the benefit of all volunteers and charity commission responsibilities.

The “Transformation” changes from the Scout Association at the end of the year provided some challenges with access and utilising the new system, however once through the teething issues, the new system is working effectively for new adult volunteers. As part of the transformation, we formally created an Operations Team which focus on maintenance and upkeep of the hut. At the end of the year we were running a group with 37 Adult Volunteers including 5 on the Trustee Board. With the dedication of these volunteers, we have been running 7 sections bringing skills for life for 140 Young People.

This year we did not manage to arrange a group event, aside from the Portishead Remembrance Parade, however the sections did a variety of activities including Climbing, Ninja Warrior, Tobogganing, Surfing, High Ropes, Kayaking. A range of visitors came to speak with our people from a range of organisations and across the community from Birds of Prey to the Food Bank. Our Scouting groups were particularly active with several weekend camps. We were thrilled to present 24 Chief Scout awards over the year.

A big thanks to the whole leadership and support team for providing another fabulous year of Scouting!

Matt Jaroszewicz - GLV

1st Nailsea Scout Group

Achievements and performance - 2024 was another very busy one for 1st Nailsea Scouts.

The Beavers, Cubs and Scouts have continued to enjoy a packed programme of events during the year in their various sections. As a group we came together for our annual carol service, which was held at the local Catholic Church with attendance from all the other local church leaders.

The Nailsea Scout and Guide Band continues to thrive and performed at both the carol service and the Remembrance Parade in November, as well as being invited to a couple of other local events (which shows how its visibility is definitely growing).

In July, with a fantastic influx of new volunteers to the team, we were able to put on yet another Nailsea Carnival. From being close to cancellation at the beginning of the year, it turned into a fantastic event once again bringing the community together, whilst also providing a helpful opportunity to raise funds for the Group.

In addition to organising Nailsea Carnival, our growing new team of fundraising volunteers, Friends of 1st Nailsea, have continued to run several clothing collections via Bag2School to bring in much-needed funds. As ever, the Trustees are immensely grateful for their support, as well as to all of the people who made donations.

The leaders were once again very pleased to support the Santa Float around Nailsea in December 2024 which is always great fun and a highlight of the festive season. We continued our aim to be very much part of the community locally and had a stall at two of the monthly Nailsea farmers' markets to increase our recruitment of new adult volunteers.

We have also started this year to work more closely with 2nd Nailsea Scout Group to share ideas, reduce duplication and support each other.

Beavers - The two Beaver colonies continued to run at close to full capacity all year, with a varied and exciting programme. We have onboarded a full new Leadership team in one of the colony nights to take over from those who retired over the summer, and additional new leaders have joined the second night. The whole beaver leadership team has come together really well with new ideas and enthusiasm, and benefited with more interaction and common programmes. This year Beavers have been learning about bats, fair trade, recycling and chocolate, to name but a few topics. They went to the local Tennis club, went on a bat walk with local experts, learnt how to make candle sticks, had a visit from the local PCSOs with a chance to try on uniforms and have a go at taking fingerprints.

A couple of Sleepovers were held during the year to start getting the Beavers used to staying away from home ready for future camps when they move to Cubs. These events were also the opportunity for the new leaders to learn the skills of keeping 20 six-year olds occupied for an evening, and then getting them to go to sleep.

As we aim to do every year, all those who moved up to Cubs also achieved their Chief Scout's Bronze Award, which is a credit to the leaders who ensure a varied program through the year.

Cubs - Over the summer of 2024 our long serving leadership team for two of our three Cub packs stepped down and hence significant recruitment and training of new leaders was required to ensure all three sections could continue in the September. It is a credit to the whole group leadership team that this was achieved with many leaders for various sections stepping in to support the new leaders through the first few months.

The Cubs were again very busy cooking, gardening, learning communication skills, trying new foods, understanding all about different charities, learning about local history and the history of our Scout group and perfecting their first aid skills and camp skills. They welcomed various visitors which included a set of evenings trying karate and kickboxing with local clubs, went ice skating, went to the theatre to watch Treasure Island tried canoeing, paddleboarding and climbing, went bowling and had fun at our local campsite Glenny Wood doing backwoods cooking and fire lighting. A sleepover was also held with all three Cub packs at Airhop (a first for Cubs and leaders alike!)

Concorde and Compass Cubs went on a final group camp with the retiring leaders at Woodhouse Park., with a variety of activities and a wonderful picnic with Cubs and parents with a chance to say thank-you and goodbye. Jack Warry Cubs held a camp at Silver Cross with a fun packed few days including a surfing lesson at Llangenith Beach, Sand castle building competition, archery, go karting to name a few.

Most Cubs again managed to achieve their Chief Scout's Silver Award and Gordano Challenge awards at the end of their time with the section.

Scouts - Our Scout Troops have been running full to capacity during the year which is great and they continue to run a full and varied programme. The Scouts have been making good use of our climbing wall, learning new practical skills in car and bike maintenance and cooking. Visits during the year included a Bristol Mosque, Laserquest and the Bristol Royal Infirmary. Finally, mountain biking and caving are a couple of new skills they tried out over the course of the year.

Both Troops ran successful camps in the summer, with Raptor Troop camping near Kiddeminster. The Scouts had the opportunity to take part in many activities including a local water park, archery camp skills, high ropes and a visit to the local Safari park, Tomahawk Troop travelled to Silver Cross Campsite near Swansea for their annual camp, and amongst the many activities they took part in, enjoyed a Coasteering adventure run by a local activity centre. A hike along the waterfalls in the area was also a highlight of the week. The muddy assault course on site was also a firm favourite.

Both troops managed to get several older Scouts through their Chief Scout's Gold Award last year, culminating in their expedition (a two-day hike, with a night under canvas without a leader present).

Nicole Jellis - GLV

2nd Clevedon Scout Group

It's been another exciting and successful year for 2nd Clevedon Scout Group, filled with adventure, fun and learning! We happily welcomed three new leaders to our team and are still actively hunting more to take down our booming waiting list!

Beavers have had a fantastic year packed with exploration and discovery. Highlights included geocaching, collecting sea glass, and visits from the police and to Weston Museum. They've worked hard towards a range of badges, with favourites being the Space, Camp Craft, and Experiment badges.

Cubs have been busy making a difference and learning new skills. They took part in a beach clean at Ladye Bay in Clevedon and enjoyed a visit to Weston Museum. Cubs earned lots of badges this year, with standout achievements in Communications, Disability Awareness, and Environmental Conservation.

Scouts were always out and about, embracing every challenge with enthusiasm. From tree planting and night hikes to a high-energy scavenger hunt, they've stayed active and engaged. Badge highlights included Pioneering, the Creative Challenge, and Chef. They're now looking forward to an exciting Summer Camp at Ferny Crofts in the New Forest this August.

A major milestone for the group this year was the handover of the Group Lead Volunteer (GLV) role. After an incredible 15 years of service, Simon stepped down, passing the torch to Lizzie, who brings fresh experience and

enthusiasm to the team (although this does now leave a Chair Trustee vacancy!). Simon has been the steady hand, the problem-solver, and the one who always had a tent peg when you needed it most. His leadership has shaped the group in lasting ways, inspiring both young people and fellow volunteers alike. We are incredibly grateful for his decade of dedication, support, and humour and we wish him the very best as he takes on a new role as District Lead Volunteer!

A huge thank you to all our volunteers, parents, and supporters. Here's to another brilliant year of Scouting adventures!

Lizzie Wormald-Kelly - GLV

2nd Portishead Scout Group

2024 was another successful year with 6 sections; 2 at each age group, but still with a long waiting list especially at the lower ages. We had lots of Chief Scout awards achieved in 2024 - 5 Bronze, 9 silver and 8 Gold.

We continued to recruit adult volunteers from new parents to grow the teams and replace those leaders moving up with their own children to cubs and scouts and beyond. We've also seen 2 of our experienced leaders step back due to personal reasons which is a huge loss. Nights Away opportunities are suffering as a result, but we have several team members willing to get a permit if we can secure support for assessment.

On a Group level we need to continue our search for a new Chair of our Trustee Board as have had no interest to date. The Trustee Board has lost some focus as a result and needs to re-energise to continue to support the leader teams and improve the hut, particularly with regard to the noise levels.

Caroline Hill - GLV

1st Crockerne Scout Group

We started the year with no Beavers leaders; other leaders stepped in to run the meetings but that still meant that we had to cancel some weeks. We ended the year in a good position, with some new leaders and a leader able to return after injury. Each section now has two Leaders each, young leaders and parent help.

Our three sections are now full with a waiting list of children wanting to join. We could take more children if we had more leaders and we are trying to address this, hopefully with a stable leadership we can build on this for next year.

All sections are running great programmes resulting in lots of badges and some Chief Scout Awards. We have made good use of Glenny Wood using the onsite activities. The Troop has also taken part in canoeing and sailing in Bristol docks. Beavers and Cubs held a camp together at Glenny Wood and the Scouts held a couple of weekend camps at Glenny Wood. Some of the highlights in the programme have been a night hike and ice skating for the Troop, Bowling and an evening hike for the Pack and walking the Portishead Sculpture trail and the Woodhouse Park Santa trail for the Beavers. Cooking and construction craft is popular with all sections.

Proud to be delivering Skills for Life.

Sue Pople – GLV

1st Backwell Scout Group

The numbers of young people at 1st Backwell remain healthy with 44 Beavers, 53 Cubs and 68 Scouts with a waiting list of 100 across the three sections.

We are reasonably OK with adult numbers although we are looking to bolster the number of 'full time' long term leaders to help with continuity and engagement within the Group.

Beavers have been busy throughout the year with a variety of age appropriate activities on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

Cubs, in addition to their usual weekday evening activities have held a couple of weekend camps at Glenny Wood and Woodhouse Park.

Scouts have held successful outdoor activities including hill walking in the Brecon Beacons and Exmoor National Parks, a winter camp in the Quantocks and a couple of Summer camps at Biblins in the Wye Valley and at Brockmead near Bristol.

They also took part in the overnight Cotswold Challenge walk and some of the older Scouts completed their Expedition Challenge on Exmoor and the South West Coast Path.

As a Group we have taken part in the District Christmas Post as well as our own community-based Christmas Tree fundraising event. Our fundraising efforts also meant that we were able to buy a new minibus to replace one of our existing ones.

Ian Mitchell – Joint GLV

1st Clevedon Scout Group

It has been a steady year, with much remaining unchanged in all the right ways over the past twelve months. Our numbers of both young people and adults are largely the same, with the usual comings and goings for both. Happily, our leader team can be viewed as one large team as many have moved into new sections this year and will continue to do so over the coming year as well. We've enjoyed the social side of camps, sharing leaders from all sections, and a home-cooked curry in the GVL's kitchen.

Having been home to a Squirrel Drey for over a year now, it is already paying dividends in leader creation. Already one leader has moved from Squirrels to Beavers, with another scheduled for Christmas '25.

The Group has weathered several camps, all being some kind of collaboration between both Beaver Colonies, both Cub Packs, or indeed the Cubs and Scouts, or the whole group in our now traditional, Group Camp in September. This year, our run of dry weather luck really ran out, with Glenny Wood being the site of some very attractive if less than practical new water features. The campfire in a pond at the base of a waterfall was a big hit with the Scouts.

Our stable numbers mean our Trustees feel we can continue to invest in our HQ, with a toilet and handwashing facilities overhaul slated for 2025. They have now cemented 1st Clevedon's catering stall in the Swiss Valley Football Festival as a big-hitter on the fundraising front. Working with Discover Clevedon (Clevedon BID) we are looking at further opportunities for short, sharp and savvy fundraisers.

Liv Handley – GLV

Long Ashton (All Saints) Scout Group

A key theme for the Group this year has been a significant turnover in volunteers. A number of experienced Beaver and Cub leaders stepped down so considerable effort has been spent on finding replacements. While we briefly went down from two Beaver colonies to one, we have now recruited two new full teams of Beaver Leaders. Both colonies are going from strength to strength as the new Leaders gain experience and confidence. In addition we have recruited a whole new team of Cub Leaders which is building on the great legacy of the previous leadership team.

Our GLV also stepped down this year so efforts have already started to find a replacement. In the meantime we are very grateful to Gordano District, and Simon Kelly in particular, for assistance in helping us to continue to operate in a compliant manner.

Another key focus for the Group this year has been our new HQ Project. Dom Anderson, who has been instrumental in driving the project forward for many years stepped down as project chair and has been replaced by Theo Hartry. Dom continues to be involved in the project and Theo brings new impetus, not least because he is a professional in the construction sector. Focus this year has been on completing a s.106 agreement with North Somerset Council (NSC), bringing services to the site and agreeing with NSC via a s.278 agreement the works we will need to undertake to the highway to ensure a safe road crossing to the site. We are also gearing up to complete enabling works, all of which will allow the site to be used for Group activities until the building itself is ready. Once those works are done, all attention will turn to fundraising.

Norris Riley Secretary LA Scouts.

Cleeve Claverham and Yatton Scout Group

CCY Group operation:

Operation of the Scout Group has been sustained throughout the year. Although with some difficulties in retaining and recruiting suitable adult volunteers. However, since September 2024 all the sections have been able to provide a full programme of Scouting activities. Local appeals for additional volunteers continue to be made with a few supporters coming forward but with many only willing to offer helper type assistance.

Scout Troop: During the period from May 2024 to the summer break the Scout Troop operated on a slightly limited basis with oversight from our previous Cub Lead – Helen Grice-Roberts. After further appeals for new volunteers Eleanor Tuck made arrangement to transfer her support to the Scout Troop and has taken the Lead Volunteer role since Sept. 2024. Getting things off to a good start Scouts attended a camp at Woodhouse Park in October. Much later in the reporting year, May 2025, a further camp was undertaken at Brownsea Island.

Cub Pack: Cub Pack has operated throughout the year with Richard Perrett as Cub Lead Volunteer. Richard was initially supported by Becky Cullinane. Later in the period Matt Saunders has also been supporting the Cub Pack operation. Early in 2025 Imad Wahab made contact and has since transferred his volunteering support from Axe District to join in with Richard supporting our Cub Pack. Richard has provided a full programme of activities with the Cubs joining the overall Group Camp organised by Matt at the Dorset Scouts Activity Centre in July 2024.

Beaver Colony: Beaver Colony has operated throughout the year with Steph Grey as Beaver Lead Volunteer. Steph has been ably supported by Matt Saunders during this period. Also, from Sept. 2024 Steph has been supported by other newer Team Members Lizzie Shepherd and Warren Marsh. The Beaver Colony now operates at full capacity. A full programme of meetings and activities has been provided including the successful Group Camp organised by Matt.