

Isle of Anglesey District Scouts Annual Return 2023 / 4

Trustees' Annual Report for the period							
From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	Day 01	Month 04	Year 2023		Day 31	Month 03	Year 2024

Section A
Reference and administration details

Charity name	Isle of Anglesey District Scout Council
Other names charity is known by	
Registered charity number (if any)	524840
Charity's principal address	Trem Fynydd
	7 Penysarn
	Anglesey
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> Postcode LL69 9BX </div>

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Stephen Buckley	Chair		
2	David Johnson	Secretary		
3	Noel Kerr	Treasurer		
4	Adrian Williamson			
5	Robert Evans	Lead Volunteer		
6	David Wilson			
7	Delyth Wilson			
8	Annie Simmonite			
9	Malcolm Rogers			
10	Carol Johnson			
11				
12				

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Robert Evans (District Lead Volunteer)

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	The Scout Association Policy, Organisation and Rules. The District has adopted the Scout Association Model Constitution, and this is ratified at the AGM each year
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Association
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Majority elected by membership; members can be co-opted / appointed (As per Association rules)

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees.
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works.
- relationship with any related parties.
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

As per the Scout Association Policy, Organisation and Rules.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

Our purpose is to actively engage and support young people on Anglesey in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

District Lead Volunteer Report

I would like to thank everyone for their exceptionally high standard of dedication and hard work, that has been seen again across the district this year. As we move away from role-based scouting and embrace the team-based approach. I'm all too aware that this is hard enough as we work our way through the changes in the way we scout, but also this is even more difficult as we are faced with further changes occurring from the Great Orme inquest.

I appreciate everyone's efforts and can't thank you enough.

District Chair

I would like to thank Mr Stephen Buckley for the fantastic job he has done as District Commissioner since joining the Anglesey district in July 2018. I think everyone will agree that his hard work and determination shows throughout every aspect of scouting on our island.

I was over the moon when he agreed to become District Chair. I couldn't imagine anyone better suited for the job as we change over to team-based scouting.

Growth

As most of us are aware Scouts UK has seen dropping numbers in recruitment of both adults and young people in the last year, with Wales being the only home nation to see membership grow.

Anglesey can hold its head high regarding this with a growth of 16% in 2023, from the January census figures we had 361 youth members and 144 adult volunteers.

One section reopened in Amlwch just over a month ago and we expect to see numbers double at the Twrcelyn Explorer Unit before the end of the year.

1st Llangefni are working towards opening a Squirrels section and will need to reopen its Scouts section shortly due to the number of Cubs needing to move on.

We have also been discussing opening a possible Squirrels Drey and Beavers Colony at one of the district's old groups which closed some years ago.

Welcome Conversations

We introduced Welcome Conversations earlier in the year to replace Appointment Panel interviews. After clearing the initial backlog of adults waiting for appointment interviews, we are now holding monthly Welcome Conversation sessions at either Amlwch or at Pentraeth. If mandatory training is completed along with a clear DBS disclosure check, adult roles could be made full in as little as 4 weeks.

Compliance

The district is doing well with compliance, down from 23% at the beginning of the year to 7.5%, we are well below the national average. However, this could still be improved again if members actioned the reminder emails sent out much sooner than we see in some cases.

Carol and Dave Johnson must be recognized for the monumental amount of work they put into this. I'm not sure anyone truly realise the time and work both put into scouting, this district would be truly lost without them.

Campsite

Thank you to Adrian and everyone involved at the campsite. There's a huge amount of work that gets put into the campsite, often starting months before anything noticeable happens. Adrian and Annie are experts at grant applications and most of what we see at the campsite is down to these applications. However, we mustn't forget the army of people who turn up on some horrendous days for tasks that can't be left for another time.

I would like also to thank Adrian not only for what he does at the campsite but also for his work as District Nights Away Advisor, without his help and advice I would be truly lost.

Roverway

The district is lucky to have five members going to Norway next month, things could have been far worse with Scouts UK slashing numbers able to attend by 40% just after Christmas. Unfortunately, one of our members did lose their place.

I would like to thank Noel for making sure all our young people had everything in place on time, to make sure they could attend.

Local Awards Advisory Group

The district has set up a new Local Awards Advisory Group (LAAG) to discuss and go through nominations for adult awards and check through each group's membership in case someone has been missed. The committee met earlier this month and all nominations that met the requirements have been forwarded to Scouts UK, after being passed by the Area committee ready for the August awards drop if approved by Scouts UK. The LAAG will meet again in October to submit the next round of nominations for the Novembers closing date.

The district will have an awards evening possibly in November to present the awards from the last LAAG meeting. The plan moving forwards will be to hopefully have awards to hand out at each District AGM and have another special evening later each year.

Youth Commissioner

District Youth Commissioner, all members of the district who are eligible to apply for the role have been contacted and invited to apply. Interviews will take place in early August.

One of the first tasks for the new District Youth Commissioner will be to set up a youth forum within the district, so that the youth membership can have their say in what happens within the district.



Explorer Scout Commissioner

Explorer Scout Commissioner, Rebecca Ode has filled the position due to her experience in similar roles in Girlguiding. As we see increased growth within this age group across Anglesey.

Youth Awards

It's been an absolute honour to visit groups within the district to present our young people with Acorn, Bronze, Silver and Gold Chief Scout Awards. Not only does this show the effort our young people put into their scouting, but also the dedication their section Team Leaders and Team members put into preparing activities and nurturing those achieving top goals in scouting.

Many thanks again to everyone who is involved in scouting here on Anglesey.

Rob Evans
District Lead Volunteer

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The District policy is to have a reserve that would enable the organisation to continue to operate for twelve months with no income.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising).
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity.
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The Charity had reserves of £40,822 at the beginning of the year, with closing balances of £38,135 at the close of the year with an excess of income over spend of £2,382.

Main income / expenditure was membership subscriptions (£34,446 – no District Levy being charged to members during this year).

Grants of £8942 and donations of £1522 were received.

Camping fees of £3821 were received

Major expenditure being Equipment (£6769) and Maintenance (£2700) for the District Campsite.

Grants of £1155 were made to members attending the World Scout Jamboree.

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s) S P Buckley

Noel Kerr

Full name(s) Stephen Peter Buckley

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc) Chair

Treasurer

Date 5th November 2024