



# Glamorgan West Area Scouts

**Annual Report 2024/2025**

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Mr Peter Muxworthy MBE JP FCA

**Officers of the Council:**

**Chair** Mr Steve Jones

**Secretary** Mr Roger Rees-Evans

**Treasurer** Mr Gareth Killa

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# Area Chairs Report

I want to take a moment to say a huge thank you to all our incredible volunteers across Glamorgan West Scouts. From our Squirrel Dreys to Beaver Colonies, Cub Packs, Scout Troops, and Explorer Units—across all three districts—our young people are enjoying exciting, enriching activities week in and week out, and that's entirely down to the dedication of our local leaders.

A another big thank you also goes to our Trustee Board, its members, supporters, trainers, and everyone in our area teams who work tirelessly behind the scenes to support our frontline volunteers.

2025 has been a fantastic one. Our area camp down in Oxwich brought together nearly 1,000 people—a powerful reminder of the scale and spirit of our Scouting community and the first time we have restarted this event since before Covid. More young people than ever are getting out on the water thanks to our brilliant water activities team, and many of our groups across the area are seeing real growth in numbers. Our groups have been busy taking part in a wide range of activities—from walks and DofE expeditions to climbing, archery, shooting, and camps—all while many are working towards the prestigious King's Scout Award. There's been no shortage of adventure and achievement!

In March, young people from our area took part in the UK Youth Forum—a fantastic opportunity to share their voices on the future of Scouting in the UK. They brought exciting ideas, made meaningful contributions, and connected with fellow Scouts from across the country.

Of course, our journey hasn't been without its challenges. From section level to group to area, we know more support is needed. That's why I'm passionate about encouraging a team-based approach—so that by working together, we can better support our leaders and deliver even more for our young people. I am looking to drive our area forward with more events and activities for all sections and am looking for passionate individuals who can spare a little or a lot more time if willing to support with events locally, providing exciting activities on your doorstep to compliment your existing group-based programmes. Information coming to your email boxes and the Facebook page shortly.

Internationally, our area has proudly been represented in Kandersteg, at the World Scout Moot in Portugal, and on an Explorer Belt expedition in Bavaria—experiences that show how far Scouting can take you. With the World Scout Jamboree application due to launch this week, as well as further Scouting trips to Bavaria, Ireland and Canada, I'm keen to support members in our area to put their name forward and dream big!

Our three campsites continue to play a vital role in helping young people experience the magic of camping. A big thank you to the teams who keep those sites running and ready.

Looking ahead to 2026 and beyond, we have some incredible opportunities on the horizon. With the energy, commitment, and teamwork that define Glamorgan West, I know we'll continue to grow, thrive, and deliver even more amazing adventures for our young people.

Thank you for everything you do.

# **Area Lead Volunteer Report**

**See report from Acting Area Chair above.**

# Area Youth Lead Report

Position vacant

# Treasurer Report

Overall, the finances of the Area and related subsidiary groups remain stable, even after allowing for the purchase, finally, of the Gorseinon property.

Net income was up (after ignoring prepayments for both Census and Insurance), due in part to closure of some scout accounts (£10k) and increase bookings for the minibus.

Our major expenditure was the purchase, as I said, of the Gorseinon property at a total cost circa £55k, including fees.

Silvercross who previously required short term assistance have fully repaid the loan.

Assistance was given to 8<sup>th</sup> Port Talbot group pending change of signatories which has been fully repaid.

A new-ish 2<sup>nd</sup> hand trailer was purchased at a cost of £1600.

No explorers/scouts applied for grants toward their overseas camps.

We continue to hold funds for Moorlakes at the agreed amount of £40000 should they require additional assistance in its development. These funds have been placed in a 95 day notice account with Lloyds Bank.

Closing balances for the main Area accounts/investments as at 31/3/2025 are:-

Main.....	£1,000
Savings.....	£195,196
95 Day notice.....	£40,000
Investments.....	£51,291

The final spreadsheet of I&E for Area and subsidiaries are available on request from the Area Secretary.

Gareth Killa  
Area Treasurer

# Activity Team Report

No report received



# Events Team Report

No report received

# Training Report

What a year! Transformation arrived!!

Training and validations were in high demand prior to September, due to the new learning modules being introduced after transformation. Leaders who were working towards their Wood Badge were contacted and encouraged to check and hopefully complete their training.

The trainers and training advisers tried to support and assist by holding regular workshops to help with validations and direction to complete Wood Badge training.

After transformation in November, mandatory learning became the priority for the UK due to the PFD report and all volunteers being urged to complete the new mandatory safety learning.

First Response training is being run monthly when possible, and volunteers directed to the blended learning when attendance on weekends is not suitable. Consequently, the compliance is at a very acceptable level

There have been 20 Wood Badges presented during the period Apr 24-Mar 25. Congratulations and thank you to them all for their achievement and their continued support to the young people and Scouting in the Area. But we need more please!!!

Charlotte Williams (CSL Afan Nedd)	Nathan Davies (BSL Afan Nedd)
Graham Rees-Evans (ALV Glamorgan West)	Rhiannon Phillips (CSL Afan Nedd)
Gemma Watts (ESL Glamorgan West)	Joann Hughes (Sql Swansea and Gower)
Jemma Withers (ACL Swansea and Gower)	Mark Bevan (ASL Cwm Newydd)
Natalie Whyte (ACL Swansea and Gower)	Angela Thomas (Sql Swansea and Gower)
Cayleigh Owen- Williams (BL Afan Nedd)	Stephen Champion (CL Afan Nedd)
Rebecca Thomas (GLV Cwm Newydd)	Paula Morris (ADLV Swansea and Gower)
Gwen Davies (ACL Swansea and Gower)	John Foster (ASL Cwm Newydd)
Jacob Freeman (CSL Afan Nedd)	Sarah Hughes (Sql Swansea and Gower)
Josh Caulton (CL Afan Nedd)	Emma Bemjamin (Sql Afan Nedd)

The new Learning only requires volunteers to complete the Growing Roots learning, but we encourage volunteers to try to achieve the Wood Badge learning. We shall continue to offer the required training, and a new calendar with the necessary modules will be available at the AGM in September

This is my last report as Area Training Manager, although training comes under my new remit as Volunteer Development Lead. I shall continue to organise training, workshops, skills events and first response training so please contact me for any questions, concerns or requests.

The Training adviser role no longer exists and is now replaced by Training Assessors, but due to the new self-assessing learning there is no need for as many. Myself, Sue Evans and Jen Aazem have agreed to take on the Training Assessor role, so please contact us if you need assistance to complete your Wood Badge.

My thanks go to the members of the training team for their support, commitment and friendship which has enabled us to achieve much during the 'transformation' year.

Pat Thomas  
VDL Glamorgan West  
training@gwscouts.org.uk

# Inclusion

No report received

# Campsites and Activity Centres

## Moorlakes Wood Scout Centre



It's hard to believe that 14 years have now passed since the site was bought by Area, using funds raised from the sale of the old Bishopston Scout Group land, and the Parc le Breos campsite Reserve Fund, which had been set up to buy a permanent presence on the Gower. A lot of hard work has gone into developing it and turning it into a now successful campsite. 39 acres of woodland does not manage itself, and we are incredibly grateful to everyone who has helped out over the years, some of whom are sadly no longer with us. We always welcome 'newcomers' who can lend a hand, whether it be for a day, or even just a few hours. The dates for our monthly Work Party are set at the beginning of the year (normally the first Saturday of the month), so get in touch when you want to come along (there are usually doughnuts and biscuits!!).

Whereas in the early days, we relied on log sales for income, our main source now comes from camping fees – and that figure is rising annually. I have mentioned in previous years that we could let the site out to various community groups every week of the year, if we just wanted to raise money, but we are a Scout campsite and allocating space to our members will always be our priority. We are pleased that 10 groups from the Area have been with us this year, some of whom have been a few times, and some of whom meet up the site on a weekly basis during the summer and autumn terms. Our presence is also being recognised by members further afield, with groups from Reading and Cookham having had their annual camp with us last year, and others from Hucclecote, Bradford-on-Avon and Suffolk will be here shortly. If you want to bring your Section or Group up for a day, a weekend, or even a week, and we will do our best to fit you in.

If you are not already aware, we now have a mains water supply, which has proved to be a great asset to the site. We are also actively pursuing how we can get permanent toilets and showers

built on the site, which if we can get them, would mean a tremendous improvement. Compost toilets are not to everyone's liking, and in the interim, during very busy periods, we bring in portable toilets for the use of visitors. We have also been looking to expand our range of activities and have recently put in a new archery range. This can be used by anyone staying on the site, or by any day visitors. Contact us for further details.

Thanks go to those who turn up daily, weekly or monthly, or whenever, to help out. We couldn't do without you. Finally, I would like to mention Horst, a great contributor to the site over many years, who passed away recently. He was not a member of the Scouting family, nor one of our volunteers, but was one of the earliest users of the site, when he ran drum workshops. As a member of the 'drumming' family, he brought hundreds of visitors to the site over the years with his workshops and wellness events, but his main contribution was in sharing his skills and knowledge of the countryside with us and others. Without that knowledge, we would not have been able to build the roundhouse or any of the other structures on the site. Always a pleasure to talk to, he will be missed by us and by his friends.

If you too would like to get involved, more involved, book a camp, or book a visit, then please get in touch.

Follow us on Facebook: Moorlakes Wood Scout Centre  
Bookings email: moorlakeswood@gmail.com

Allen Aldred



## Neath Scout Campsite, Cadoxton



The last 12 months for Cadoxton has been busy and it continues to look busy into the back end of 2025.

We have continued to enjoy seeing lots of new groups due to use of Online Scout Manager with some repeat groups staying from previous years. Other than lots of Glamorgan West Groups we have had local guides, Swansea University Guides and Scouts Society, local conversation groups as well as various District events, training sessions and meetings.

The Scout shop continues to be a success and is down to a dedicated team of volunteers, we are still attracting customers from out of our area which is testament to the great history of the shop here in Cadoxton.

Financially the scout shop continues to be the largest part of our financial turnover which raises a significant amount of funds for the site although we are now seeing a year on year increase of hall rental and camping income compared to the previous decade.

The committee and management team are still formed of the key core members as of previous years, but we always looking to grow this team.

In the last year we have undertaken two major projects, a volunteer day was called in October 2024 and we have invested in new and increased campfire seating for the sites main campfire area on the bottom field. The existing timber logs has been in place for over 30 years and were starting to see some degradation, we therefore chose to replace them with recycled plastic benches which will likely outlast the previous set of timber seating!

The 2nd big project we undertook was in conjunction with Heidelberg Materials who are a large civil engineering company who were undertaking some work in the area on behalf of Neath Port Talbot Council. After some conversations with the local county councillor, Heidelberg Materials donated labour and materials to tarmac a section of the entry lane to the site, re-gravel and re-grade the car park area and move a large mound of earth from the bottom field to increase the size of the useable area.

Future plans for the site are to give campers some new facilities for their use like a dedicated

washing up area in the toilet block and refurbish the toilets at the front of the main hall. We were lucky to escape Storm Darragh with no damage to any buildings or fences however we were very unlikely to lose one of the large tree's onsite which uprooted and fell into the middle of the top camping field as the storm intensified, this tree was a considerable size and took around 25 man-hours to completely chop up, following this we undertook a tree survey of the site which has identified some minor work to complete this year.

The main hall continues to be a considerable asset to the site and its flexibility in hosting a variety of different events, however in the last year we have started looking at options, ideas and potential layouts for a new building as well as engaging with local companies who may be able to help us with designs and planning.

I would like to thank all the members of the Cadoxton Committee and the Scout shop team for their continued support over the last 12 months and going forward. If anyone would like to join the committee, shop team or the campsite support team please get in touch.

Thanks again  
Rhys Mainwaring  
Chairperson



## Silver Cross Scout Activity Centre



The site has been busy over summer 2024 and through to spring 2025 with visiting groups from England and Wales, including from Worcester, Stokenchurch, Camberley, Barnet, Sutton Coldfield, Bere Regis, Reigate, Risca and Fenny Compton (who told us that their hall was used in filming 'Mr Bates vs the Post Office'!). It was also nice to see quite a number of Explorer Units using the site, from St Johns ESU Kineton, and a welcome return visit from Evolution ESU in London. We also had campers from 2<sup>nd</sup> Ammanford Rangers and B Company Army Cadets. It's been great to see local groups using Silver Cross, either for day activities, or weekend camps, such as stalwarts Sketty Scouts and Fforestfach Scout Group using the site frequently. Other local groups to camp here during the year are 1<sup>st</sup> Neath, 11<sup>th</sup> PortTalbot, 47<sup>th</sup> Killay, 8<sup>th</sup> Baglan and 32<sup>nd</sup> Rhyddings. It was great to see Warlingham School from Surrey here once again for their Silver DofE training weekend. Other regular users of the site for outdoor meetings are 4<sup>th</sup> Cwm Newydd Pontarddulais Cubs & Beavers, 5<sup>th</sup> Cwm Newydd Penllergaer Beavers, Cubs & Scouts and of course 1<sup>st</sup> Neath Beavers with their Beaver Fun Day in October. Draig Arian Explorers continue to use the site as their main base throughout the year. Bookings for 2025 are very strong so we look forward to yet another busy summer.

The site office being located in the shop has been a great move and the access has been much appreciated by visiting groups. Our collection of games equipment and also team building equipment is also now kept in the shop. A major addition to the site this last year has been the outdoor wash-station for dishes etc, which has three sinks and hot and cold running water. This is situated outside the toilet block. Another addition has been the installation of lighting in the car park which allows use of the site on darker evenings.

Unfortunately we discovered an underground water leak near the toilet block which resulted in us employing a specialist company to locate and repair the leak. However, the huge water bill we received from Dŵr Cymru because of this leak (over £4000!) was reduced after discussions to just over £200. We will still need to replace the main site stop-cock at the end of the summer season, however.

There was quite a bit of storm damage during the storms of winter 2024/2025, and the site chapel suffered most, with the need to totally rebuild this. The area is cordoned off at the moment, and we hope to look at repair after the main season – any handy people who could help with this please get in touch. The tree surgeons did their annual survey this Spring, and the trees were in good shape (mainly because of our regular inspection by the tree surgeons and also subsequent remedial work). We try to be as proactive as we can by engaging professionals who know what they're doing to undertake the safety survey for us annually and to carry out any remedial work needed. If the unthinkable should happen when people are camping we have the peace of mind that we've done as much as we can to keep the campsite safe. We also carry out the visual check of the trees on the main field after every storm for any obvious damage which may have happened. These are all recorded and kept for any future reference.

We have had to look carefully at our recycling system in order to allow for food waste recycling. As a result, we are now with Veolia Waste Recycling, and although this costs us money, it should mean that we don't empty the skip so often. The skip will have a netting cover from now on, and is only for use for site maintenance.

A lot of time was spent earlier this year in responding to the proposed Welsh Government Visitor Levy which is due in 2027. I met with Rebecca Evans MS at the site, and also Tom Giffard MS, after the campaign fronted by ScoutsCymru to address this issue. Thankfully, the proposed levy will now not apply to under 18s, but the levy on adults unfortunately will remain, which has an effect on having to charge leaders this, and also the considerable extra admin caused.

As a site, we rely heavily on volunteers for maintenance and also running activities. If you can help in this respect we would be very grateful. We are looking for people who might like to join our activities staff to help when you can. We will train people up on crate stacking, to help on these sessions, up to readiness for permit assessment. Also if you have an archery permit and/or NSRA qualification for air-rifles and would like to help out, please ask one of the Service Team for more details.

Las Vegas Night was held on Saturday Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> 2024 and although the number of people from Glam West were few and far between, a great evening was enjoyed by those who attended. Please come along to the next one and have a great evening – planned for November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025 (and plenty of lighting for you to see in the carpark!)

A reminder please, also, that we've signed up to Easyfundraising, so if you can, please support us on <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/silvercrossscoutcentre/>.

As you buy anything online, or with a card, a donation will be made to us if you go via the easyfundraising website first – it will not cost you anything, you will get your shopping normally, but it can help us. Thank you.

Finally, I really need to thank the members of the Service Team who as usual have pulled out the stops to get things running on the site this year. I know I say this every year but I can't over emphasise how amazing these people are, some spending many weekends in the year here at the site. A HUGE thank you to you all – it would not be possible for Silver Cross to function as it does without you :)

Don't forget to keep checking our website, and while you're at it check out our Facebook page as well to keep up-to-date with what's happening. Here's to a good 2025 and even better 2026!

Andy Shurey, Warden

[www.silvercross.org.uk](http://www.silvercross.org.uk)

Facebook: Silver Cross Scout Centre

Twitter/X: @SilverCrossCamp

# Area Membership Census

	2024					2025					2024 v 2025					% change
	Male	Female	Self-identify	Prefer not to say	Total	Male	Female	Self-identify	Prefer not to say	Total	Male	Female	Self-identify	Prefer not to say	Total	
Squirrels	40	16	0	0	56	38	21	0	0	59	-2	+5	0	0	+3	5%
Beaver Scouts	292	78	0	0	370	271	78	0	0	349	-21	0	0	0	-21	-6%
Cub Scouts	396	101	0	0	497	304	94	0	0	398	-92	-7	0	0	-99	-20%
Scouts	258	102	0	0	360	256	100	0	0	356	-2	-2	0	0	-4	-1%
Explorer Scouts*	50	18	2	0	70	52	14	0	0	66	+2	-4	-2	0	-4	-6%
<b>Total Membership</b>	<b>1036</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1353</b>	<b>921</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1228</b>	<b>-115</b>	<b>-8</b>	<b>-2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-125</b>	<b>-9%</b>

\* Including Young Leaders

	2024	2025	2024 vs 2025
Squirrel Scout Dreys	4	7	+3
Beaver Scout Colonies	27	26	-1
Cub Scout Packs	29	27	-2
Scout Troops	25	24	-1
Explorer Scout Units, including YL Units	7	6	-1
<b>Groups</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>-9</b>

Glamorgan West Area Scout Council													Report and Financial Statements for Year ended 31 March 2025									
AREA	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Totals									
	Income																					
2024 Insurance	£	5,849.06	£	2,993.93	£	790.03		£	383.52				£ 10,016.54									
2004 Census			£	3,249.00									£ 3,249.00									
M&G Inv dividend		£	827.66			£	692.53						£ 3,057.27									
Bus Hire/refunds/scrappage	£	260.00			£	1,600.00	£	120.00	£	210.00	£	60.00	£ 4,019.00									
Western Power/National Grid rental	£	12.50		£	20.30					£	1,064.13		£ 32.80									
2025 Insurance prepayments													£ -									
2025 Census prepayments													£ 73,080.00									
Bank Interest	£	299.28	£	232.64	£	251.41	£	228.75	£	219.74	£	190.98	£ 163.54									
8th Port Talbot reimbursement													£ 2,134.48									
Silvercross loan				£	1,000.00	£	2,500.00				£	2,134.48	£ 3,500.00									
Welsh Water refund							£	230.82					£ 230.82									
Kilay Explorers closure										£	3,838.18		£ 3,838.18									
Funds from Scout assoc/TSA Charity												£	4,176.12									
											£	1,176.12	£ 3,000.00									
													£ 109,876.84									
											Income		£ 76,329.00									
											less Census reimbursed		£ 10,016.54									
											less Insurance reimbursed											
													£ 23,531.30									
	Expenditure											Net income										
Trawler Rd - Welsh Water - 4122055801						£	72.83					£	57.52									
Trawler Rd - British Gas - 603393679	£	33.64	£	31.80	£	31.06	£	29.94	£	52.56	£	52.25	£ 55.92									
Trawler Rd - E.On - electricity 9A35EAFA			£	95.55									£ 58.66									
Trawler Rd - repairs/service													£ 650.17									
Depot, Bryn Rd - BT Group - 07055650	£	31.00	£	31.00	£	31.00	£	31.00	£	31.00	£	31.00	£ 31.00									
Depot, Bryn Rd - British GasLite - 183897	£	61.86	£	47.55	£	23.67	£	19.95	£	19.92	£	19.08	£ 63.86									
Depot, Bryn Rd - PlusNet -	£	17.17	£	17.17	£	17.17	£	17.17	£	17.17	£	11.17	£ 7.02									
Depot, Bryn Rd - Welsh Water - 304399572	£	20.00	£	20.00	£	20.00	£	20.00	£	20.00	£	20.00	£ 20.00									
Depot, Bryn Rd - repairs																						
													£ -									
													£ 71,032.50									
2024 Census	£	71,032.50											£ 17,758.74									
Keen Insurance													£ -									
Silvercross loan													£ 69.00									
Minibus - general costs													£ 389.49									
Minibus - DVLA tax					£	165.00							£ 1,600.00									
Minibus - MOT													£ 539.50									
Minibus - Insurance					£	949.10							£ 2,126.49									
Trailer purchase													£ 600.00									
HQ - room hire													£ 1,000.00									
8th Port Talbot loan				£	12.00	£	12.00	£	250.00	£	32.00		£ 687.16									
Scout Assoc Trust - legal costs			£	600.00				£	288.00	£	281.84	£	629.16									
Scout Assoc - summit													£ 927.49									
Swansea Airshow costs			£	151.00			£	536.16					£ 1,000.00									
Website hosting/domain	£	15.00	£	15.00	£	15.00	£	15.00	£	15.00	£	15.00	£ 15.00									
First Aid Training	£	222.00											£ 180.00									
Expenses	£	147.73	£	32.85	£	149.83	£	474.44		£	132.00		£ 27.50									
Scouts visits abroad- donation											£	57.83	£ 57.83									
Gorseionon property purchase												£	54,031.40									
Mileage costs												£	135.90									
Postage	£	5.40			£	2.55							£ 7.95									
													</									

Glamorgan West area Scout Council  
Report & Accounts 2024-2025

Summary – Cash & Bank Balances	2025	Income	Expenditure
Area	£287487	£109876	£155278
Area Events	£6666	£0	£998
Silvercross	£10500	£24606	£22633
Moorlakes	£62172	£25499	£4745
Neath scout Campsite & Shop	£48734	£20644	£20969
Training	£1907	£0	£0
Totals	£417468	£180577	£204625

I confirm I am satisfied with the financial information provided and there is no cause or issue for concern.



David Butler  
AAT

14/10/2025