



Malling Scouts

Annual Report – year ended 31 March 2025

TRUSTEES REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Charity Name: Malling District Scout Council

Registered Charity Number: 308139

Charity's Principal Address: 344 New Hythe Lane, Larkfield, Kent, ME20 6RZ

Trustees¹:

Adam Ray	Trustee
Craig Worcester	District Lead Volunteer
Deborah Hadley	Trustee
Denis Spiller	District Chair
Isobel Warrington	District Treasurer
Mark Gordon	Trustee (appointed 13 July 2024)
Matthew Paramor	Trustee
Thomas Llewellyn	District Youth Lead
David Silvester	District Treasurer (resigned 13 July 2024)
Graham Pover	Trustee (resigned 13 July 2024)
Kenneth Sharp	Trustee (resigned 13 July 2024)
Mark Price	Trustee (resigned 13 July 2024)
Matthew Wood	Trustee (resigned 13 July 2024)
Paul Gladwell	Trustee (resigned 13 July 2024)

President (Honorary): Martin Willgoss

¹ During 2024, Scouts underwent a period of transformation, and at the AGM the District Scout Council adopted a new constitution which led to several roles no longer having ex-officio membership of the trustee board, and a number of former trustees resigned as a trustee to focus on their operational roles. The new trustee board has a renewed focus on governance and its membership reflects this.

Structure, governance and management

The District's governing documents are those of 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.

The District is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Scouts. The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.

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

The Trustee Board consists of Chair, Treasurer, District Lead Volunteer, District Youth Lead and up to six appointed trustees.

This 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.

Objectives and activities

The Purpose of Scouting

Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

The Values of Scouting

As Scouts we are guided by these values:

Integrity – we act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy and loyal

Respect – we have self-respect and respect for others

Care – we support others and take care of the world in which we live

Belief – we explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes

Co-operation – we make a positive difference; we co-operate with others and make friends

The Scout Method

Scouting takes place when young people, in partnership with adults, work together based on the values of Scouting and:

- enjoy what they are doing and have fun
- take part in activities indoors and outdoors
- learn by doing
- share in spiritual reflection
- take responsibility and make choices

- undertake new and challenging activities
- make and live by their promise

The District meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings.

Achievements and performance

It's been another successful year for Malling Scouts. The year saw us transform our volunteer experience, with the launch of a new digital system, teams and ways of volunteering.

Our newly formed Programme Team began delivering events for young people from across the Malling area. The events included the District coming together to celebrate St George's Day at the Friars in Aylesford, as well as events for Squirrels and a silent disco for Beavers, Cubs and Scouts.

The Groups across the District continue to offer a wide range of opportunities to young people in the area, helping them gain skills for life. We were also able to open a new Explorer Unit, Phoenix, to increase capacity within the 14-24 provision, and look forward to seeing how this grows in the years to come.

The major achievement in the year was taking over 200 people to Kandersteg International Scout Centre, in Switzerland, for the adventure of a lifetime - exploring the country, taking part in adventurous activities and making new friends. With representation of both adults and young people from right across the District, this was the standout event of the year.

Our Campsite Support, Management and Development Teams continue to work on maintaining and developing Comp Wood, which includes construction of a new building and refurbishment of existing facilities. We are excited to watch the new building and facilities take shape.

Young people remain at the heart of everything that we do in Malling, shaping the activities we offer which gives them opportunities to take on leadership roles. The Youth Team has been at the heart of this, holding a youth forum for Scouts and Explorers to share their thoughts, and a youth panel being instrumental to decision making as part of the trip to Kandersteg.

Finally, a massive thank you to all the volunteers across the District, without your unwavering support and dedication we would not be able to provide our young people with Skills for Life!

Financial review

Reserves policy

The District's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the District should income and fundraising activities fall short. The District Trustee Board considers the District should hold a sum equivalent to 12 months of non-discretionary running costs and 50% of discretionary running costs, now held at £14,800.

The District Trustee Board reviewed the reserves held in the year and increased these to meet the reserves policy. The reserves are to be increased on an annual basis in line with inflation, then reviewed every three years or when required.

Investment Policy

The District's Income and Expenditure can result in surplus funds being held whilst projects are ongoing, but this is not sufficient to invest in longer-term investments. The District has therefore adopted a low-risk strategy to the investment of its funds, utilising instant access and notice savings accounts. All funds are held in cash, using only mainstream banks or building societies.

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Isobel Warrington	Craig Worcester
Position	District Treasurer	District Lead Volunteer
Date	31/05/2025	31/05/2025

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF MALLING DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Malling District Scout Council ("the Trust") for the year ending 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of the report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

Independent examiner's statement

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

I have completed my examination and confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Signed:



Name:

Ben Hibben

Qualification:

ACA

Address:

4A Newton Road, Whitstable, Kent, CT5 2JD

Date:

31/05/2025

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	2024 £
Membership income					
Membership subscriptions		67,020	-	67,020	59,637
Membership subscriptions paid		(58,671)	-	(58,671)	(52,230)
Net membership retained		8,349	-	8,349	7,407
Comp Wood campsite					
Badge income		239	-	239	-
Badge expenses		(294)	-	(294)	-
Campsite fees		8,649	-	8,649	7,110
Donation income		1,205	-	1,205	1,704
Development and equipment		(208)	-	(208)	-
Insurance		(891)	-	(891)	(1,078)
Maintenance and repairs		(7,020)	-	(7,020)	(9,548)
Utilities		(1,060)	-	(1,060)	(1,421)
Campsite surplus / (deficit)		620	-	620	(3,233)
Income					
Badge income		1,051	-	1,051	3,838
Bank interest		969	-	969	366
Fundraising		-	-	-	517
Gift aid		3,788	-	3,788	-
Grants	3	3,750	-	3,750	6,500
Programme – district		3,437	-	3,437	14,910
Programme – explorers		18,874	-	18,874	30,562
Programme – network		2,150	-	2,150	-
OSM		820	-	820	820
Top awards		6,110	-	6,110	5,191
UK & international camps		60,222	-	60,222	140,241
Other income		3,497	-	3,497	2,316
Total income		104,668	-	104,668	205,261
Expenditure					
Admin – licences and software		(2,818)	-	(2,818)	(2,369)
Admin – insurance		(153)	-	(153)	-
Adult support and training		(36)	-	(36)	-
AGM and trustee expenses		(341)	-	(341)	(1,026)
Badge expenses		(1,116)	-	(1,116)	(4,124)
Campsite development		(7,724)	-	(7,724)	-
Charlie Girling bursary fund	2	-	(163)	(163)	(435)
Equipment expenses		(6,567)	-	(6,567)	-
Internet		(150)	-	(150)	-

Programme – district	(7,390)	-	(7,390)	(47,590)
Programme - explorers	(19,918)	-	(19,918)	(26,520)
Programme – network	(1,407)	-	(1,407)	-
Top awards	(6,107)	-	(6,107)	(4,718)
UK & international camps	(157,267)	-	(157,267)	(50,879)
Youth shaped scouting	(194)	-	(194)	(1,455)
Other expenses - clothing, flag	(2,775)	-	(2,775)	(3,767)
Total expenditure	(213,963)	(163)	(214,126)	(142,883)
Surplus / (deficit)	(100,326)	(163)	(100,489)	66,552
Movement in funds				
Cash funds b/fwd	346,588	14,215	360,803	294,251
Surplus / (deficit)	(100,326)	(163)	(100,489)	66,552
Cash funds c/fwd	246,262	14,052	260,314	360,803

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	2024 £
Cash funds					
Current accounts		82,398	14,052	96,450	359,519
Savings accounts		49,081	-	49,081	-
Notice accounts		111,073	-	111,073	-
Prepaid cards		3,707	-	3,707	1,284
Petty cash		3	-	3	-
Total cash funds		246,262	14,052	260,314	360,803
Non-monetary assets					
Badge stock	1.3	1,126	-	1,126	1,413
Campsite buildings	1.2	236,794	-	236,794	81,301
Campsite land	1.2	19,000	-	19,000	19,000
District equipment	1.2	48,488	-	48,488	-
Total other assets		305,408	-	305,408	101,714
Total assets		551,670	14,052	565,722	462,517

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1. Accounting Policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Commission, under the receipts and payments basis. Assets and liabilities are recognised at historical cost or transaction value, unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

1.2 Tangible fixed assets

During the year, the District Trustee Board decided it would be more relevant to update the assets held by the charity to the insured value, however the campsite land continues to be held at the purchase price. The campsite buildings and district equipment were updated to the insured value as of December 2024.

1.3 Badge Stock

The badge stock is stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

1.4 Taxation

The Council is a registered charity and accordingly is exempt from taxation on its income and gains where they are applied for charitable purposes.

2. Funds

Unrestricted Funds

Funds that are available to be spent freely to continue the charitable activities of the District should income and fundraising fall short.

This fund includes designated funds, which utilised for expenses relating to specific events or fundraising efforts, such as:

- Comp Wood Development Fund
- District and Campsite Reserves *(see reserves policy on pg. 3)*
- Programme Support Fund

Restricted Funds

Funds that are only to be used for the purpose set up in the restriction. In the current year, these include:

- Charlie Girling Bursary – a restricted fund in memory of Charlie Girling to support young people in the district to take part in events and activities.

3. Grants

During the year, a community development grant of £3,750 was received from Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council for equipment to facilitate our international camp at Kandersteg and for future camps both international and domestic.

During the prior year, £3,000 was received from Cobtree Charity Trust for Duke of Edinburgh equipment, and £3,500 from The Scout Association for the support of the new Explorer section.

4. Trustee Remuneration and Expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2024 - £nil).

During the year, no expenses were reimbursed or paid directly to any Trustee on behalf of their Trusteeship (2024 - £nil).