

Thanet District Scout Council Charity Commission Number 303423

Annual General Meeting

Sunday 8th September 2024 - 11.00am

Agenda

- 1. Welcome by the District Chair
- 2. Approval of the minutes of the AGM held on Saturday 20th January 2024
- 3. Annual Report by the District Treasurer and adoption of accounts
- 4. District Lead Volunteer Team report
- 5. Adoption of the constitution as POR 5.4
- 6. Appoint members of the District Trustee Board, following recommendations from the open selection process initiated by the District Trustee Board
- 7. Closing words
- 8. Awards and Presentations

Ex-officio members

District Chair
District Treasurer
District Lead Volunteer
District Youth Lead

Neil McCollum Richard Phillpott Richard Horne Ashley Goldfinch

Appointed members

Cathy Currie
Darci Arthur
Catherine Hodges
Edawrd Morris
Tracy Dunbarton
Barbara Graham-Horne

Representing County

Neil Gearing Des Harris

District Trustee Chair Report

As I write this report my first thoughts are where have the last year has gone as it seems likely only yesterday that I was persuaded to step in as the new Chair. Admittedly my first Trustee meeting wasn't until December followed by the last AGM in January, but it has certainly gone fast.

I have tried to use the time wisely, firstly learning about how Scouting has changed in the 35 years since I was last involved, but also to try and better understand the challenges facing the organisation today and how the Trustee Board can best support the District Lead Volunteers, Group Lead Volunteers and other volunteers in addressing those challenges and ensuring scouting in Thanet continues to thrive.

A lot of this learning has been online, staying abreast of the various changes to POR as well as the numerous updates issued as part of the ongoing change process. However, it has also been useful to get out and about and attend some events such as the District Adutt last year and the St George's Day Celebration in April. I hope to be able to attend more events in the year ahead and would also happily come along to Group AGMs whenever possible.

Although we have made some limited changes over the last 12 months, the next year, following the AGM, will be the first proper year operating under the new Trustee Board guidelines. It would be fair to say we are still getting our heads around the new set up, but it will mean an increased focus for the board on good governance, financial accountability, risk management and strategic oversight, with the operational decisions now being picked up by the leadership team. It is inevitable with change of this scale that we will get some things wrong, but if we do, we will learn from the process and ensure we are always there to support the District.

I must take this opportunity thank my fellow Trustees who have been so supportive over the last year. I know it is never an easy role to fill but thank you nevertheless for your support and commitment over the year. I know some of you are stepping down this year so thank you for all that you have done. A thank you also to the Campsite Team whose hard work ensures that this key asset for the District is always available to accommodate a wide range of activities.

I would also like to thank the District Lead Volunteers, Richard, Catherine and Gemma, who have worked hard to develop the new leadership role and ensure we are actively engaging and supporting young people in their personal development. Lastly, a special thanks to Barbara as District Secretary, who has been my guide during this rapid re-introduction to Scouting.

Neil McCollum District Chair



Disrtict Lead Volunteer Report

2024 – another year of Scouting has passed.

The year started with lots of Beaver and Squirrel fun, a District Beaver sleepover, Quiz for the Cubs and Chess for the older sections. The Cubs and Scouts enjoyed the Family hike, a new favourite on the calendar.

Our D of E programme continued to grow with lots of Explorers having the opportunity to complete D of E or Chief Scout expeditions. Scout Master at Arms was a popular choice, allowing participants to enjoy the facilities at Marshside.

St Georges Day was dry(er) and brought to life with our very own dragon on stage at Dreamland. Scouts and Explorers look forward to Adutt this month and Explorers to their Master at Arms days.

Gang Show enthralled us with a series of wonderful performances on stage at their new home at the Birchington Village Centre and a special performance at Dreamland too. It was fantastic to see the volume of young people involved, all with such enthusiasm.

We welcome back no less than nine Explorers and Network Members from Explorer Belt expeditions to Poland, Bulgaria and Germany. A further two Explorers represented Thanet as part of the UK Roverway Contingent, and next year we have Network members attending the World Scout Moot.

We are very proud of the enthusiasm that the Kent Scouts Africa programme has been met with here. This year we have taken safari in Kenya and secured places to travel to Botswana and Ghana in the years ahead.

We have seen some exciting growth, and sadly the closure of a group too. With help from Kent Scouts' Millie and the continued hard work of Gemma, 17th Ramsgate have found a new permanent home back at St Marks and launch a brand-new Beaver colony to serve the local community from September.

Meanwhile 10th Margate officially closed at the end of the summer term. We would like to take this opportunity to send sincere thanks to Angela, Scott and the Mutton family, Carole, Manjula and Mark for the love and dedication they have shown to 10th to the very last.

During the past year, two valued members of The Scouts in Thanet and Kent have 'Gone Home'. We recognise the dedication and commitment of John White to Scouts in Thanet and Dean Harding, County Commissioner, for his passion and enthusiasm which was contagious without exception.

As a team, we welcomed Neil McCollum as Chair of Trustees last year and we would like to extend our sincere thanks to Neil and Richard Philpott and all of the Trustees who have served this year and worked to shape the Trustee Board to work under the new Scout's framework after today. To all the volunteers in the District, 2024 has been the year of Transformation - we know change is never easy and often contentious but we are grateful that so many of you have interacted with Danielle, our Transformation Lead, Barbara in her thankless task of Compass sorting, taken advantage of all the national webinars and sessions run locally. You have done this while continuing to provide exciting and enjoyable programmes for the young people, thank you.

Richard Horne, Catherine Hodges, Gemma Lambeth District Lead Volunteer Team

District 14-24 Team Report

Over the past year, our six Explorer Units - Thanet Rams ESU, Phoenix ESSU, Warren's ESU, Bradstowe Smugglers ESU, Spitfire EASU, and the Young Leaders Unit, along with the Thanet Scout Network have taken part in dynamic and engaging programmes.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award continues to be a cornerstone of our activities, with many young people achieving their Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awards. I would like to congratulate Tim Allan and Jenny Allan for their outstanding achievement in earning their King's Scout Award, and to Zack Connor, a Network Scout member, for completing his King's Scout Award too. Additionally, our young people have pursued other Top Awards, including the Chief Scout's Platinum Award, Chief Scout's Diamond Award, the Young Leader Award and the Explorer Belt, and it is fantastic to see more young people achieving their Top Awards each year.

There continues to be a growth in the number of Young Leaders volunteering across the District with several Young Leader training weekends that have also taken place successfully.

It's also exciting to report that our young people have participated in many international trips including Explorer Belt expeditions to Poland, Germany and Bulgaria, a Kent Scouts community project to Kenya and even attendance to Roverway 2024 in Norway.

Our re-launched Scout Network has enjoyed activities such as a Taskmaster challenge and Crazy Golf, and I look forward to how we expand this provision moving forward.

I would like to thank all the adult volunteers that support our 14-24 provision for their dedication and commitment, which are crucial to our success.

We celebrate the achievements of our Explorer Units and the Scout Network this year and look forward to another year of growth and adventure.

Nirav Patel District 14-24 Team Leader





Thanet District Scout Council Receipts & Payments Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2024

Charity Commission Registered Number: 303423



We help young people and volunteers develop the practical, employability and character skills they need to succeed

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District Treasurer's Report

Overview

I am pleased to report that the District continues to be in a healthy financial state, the campsite continues to go from strength to strength and campsite income has increased again on the previous year, however we are seeing continued increases with the utility and maintenance costs at the campsite, meaning the campsite had a small deficit in the year, steps have already been taken to ensure the campsite returns to a surplus and it continues to offer excellant value for the district and beyond. The district is in a good financial position to develop and grow Scouting in Thanet.

Independent Examination

We would like to thank Jonathan Spurling of Spurling Cannon for examining these accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charity Commission without charge and at very short notice. Unfortunatley due to ill health Michael Collier (Retired Chartered Accountant) was unable to take on the Independent Examination.

Due to my involvement with Spurling Cannon we are actively looking for a new Indpendent Examiner going forward.

Investments & Reserves

The District retains a substantial level of reserves held in investment accounts. Further details on our reserves can be found on pages 7 & 8, during the year the Trustees have given further consideration to the Charities Reserves policy, and in particulary the General Reserve and the Campsite Reserve. The trustees aim to maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds at a level which would enable the Charity and the district to be supported if unprecedented events (i.e. Covid-19) occurred. The trustees also aim to maintain a specific reserve for the campsite in designated funds which equates to approximately eighteen months of campsite expenditure.

Public Benefit Statement

The District meets the Charity Commission's Public Benefit Criteria under both the Advancement of Education and Advancement of Citizenship or Community Development Headings.

Richard Phillpott - District Treasurer

Independent Examiners Report

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of the Thanet District Scout Council

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Thanet District Scout Council for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of 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'). 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 all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Jonathan Spurling- FCCA
Jonathan Spurling
Spurling Cannon Ltd

424 Margate Road Ramsgate

Kent

CT12 6SJ

5th September 2024



Receipts & Payments Account

	2024	2023
	Total £	Total £
Total Receipts for the year	89,607	90,174
Total payments for the year	83,497	90,240
Net receipts/(payments) for the year	6,111	(66)
Transfer between fund	-	-
	6,111	(66)
Cash, Bank & Similar funds bought forward	168,975	169,041
Cash, Bank & Similar funds carried forward	175,086	168,975

The above account and accepting statement(s) of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on 3rd September 2024

and signed on their behalf by

Richard Phillpott - District Treasurer

Receipts

	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS	51,979	46,100
GIFT AID RECLAIMED	<u> </u>	46,100
	31,373	40,100
INVESTMENT INCOME RECEIVED Bank interest	1,652	704
Bankinterest	1,652	704
DONATIONS AND GRANTS		
Donations	40	700
Grants	40	700
ACTIVITIES		
Squirrels	1,465	-
Beavers	177	1,360
Cubs	118	1,871
Scouts	- 9.053	7
Explorers Networkers	8,953	,
D of E	1,790	140
Young Leaders	533	
KIJ 2022	-	5,470
WSJ 2023	5,049	15,035
Ypres 2023	-	1,305
Uniform	-	-
Badge shop	5,826	4,494
Campsite Thanet Scout Active Support Unit (TSASU)	11,766 226	9,637 181
Thanet Scouts Active Support Offic (13A30)	-	321
Sundry	34	-
	35,937	39,821
FUNDRAISING GROSS		
St Georges Day - Campsite AED	<u>-</u>	173
	-	173
SUNDRY RECEIPTS		4 5 4 0
Adjustment for badge shop opening balance Adjustment for TSASU opening balance	-	1,540 500
Adjustment for TSASO opening balance Adjustment for Activities opening balance	- -	636
	-	2,676
TOTAL RECIEPTS FOR THE YEAR	89,607	90,174



Payments

	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£
MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS	45,105 45,105	42,362 42,362
DONATIONS		
	-	
ACTIVITIES		
Squirrels	1,265	-
Beavers	741	1,074
Cubs	301	1,444
Scouts	-	-
Explorers	8,063	71
Networkers	5	-
D of E	1,737	572
Young Leaders	278	7 4 0 4
KIJ 2022	2.500	7,184
WSJ 2023	3,500	21,900
Ypres 2023 Uniform	- 501	1,936
Badge shop	5,183	- 4,244
Campsite	13,646	8,505
St Georges Day	870	-
Thanet Scout Active Support Unit (TSASU)	315	409
Thanet Scouts Activities	92	269
Sundry	31	-
34,	36,526	47,608
FLIND DAIGING EVDENICES		
FUND RAISING EXPENSES	 -	
ADMIN EXPENSES Printing and Stationery	175	_
Commissioners Expenses	-	_
AGM	40	157
Training	326	-
Bank charges	60	72
Legal and Professional fees	1,170	-
Bookkeeping software	94	41
	1,865	270
SUNDRY REPAYMENTS	-	-
	-	-
TOTAL PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	83,497	90,240

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£
MONETARY ASSETS		
cash bank and similar funds BANK CURRENT ACCOUNT 1	22,279	41,397
BANK CURRENT ACCOUNT 2	31,569	25,819
BANK TERM DEPOSIT	47,061	30,892
FIXED RATE ACCOUNT	66,000	66,000
CAMPSITE ACCOUNT	3,083	-
CASH IN HAND	1,880	2,116
BADGE SHOP (BANK & CASH)	2,434	1,790
THANET SCOUT ACTIVE SUPPORT UNIT (BANK & CASH)	181	271
THANET SCOUTS ACTIVITIES (BANK & CASH)	598	690
TOTAL MONETARY ASSETS	175,086	168,975
101/12/11/01/21/11/11/100210	175,000	100,373
NON MONETRAY ASSETS		
SPECIALIST EQUIPMENT - MASRSHIDE - INSURANCE VALUE LAND & BUILDINGS - MARSHSIDE - INSURANCE VALUE	28,206 1,469,200	18,315 712,268
EAND & BOILDINGS - WANGITSIDE - INSURANCE VALUE		
TOTAL NON MONETARY ASSETS	1,497,406	730,583



SUMMARY OF FUNDS

Name of Fund	Notes (pg 8)	Balance as at 31.03.23	Movement in Year	Balance as at 31.03.24
General				
General Fund		101,917	- 17,412	84,505
General reserve	1	11,500	18,500	30,000
Designated				
Squirrels		-	200	200
Beavers		286	- 564	- 278
Cubs		427	- 183	244
Scouts		-		-
Explorers		-	1,094	1,094
Young Leaders		-	254	254
D of E	2	- 432	53	- 379
WSJ 2023		- 4,923	4,923	- 0
Eurojam	3	1,665	- 204	1,461
Campsite reserve	4	19,292	708	20,000
Campsite AED	5	173		173
Badge Shop		1,794	643	2,437
TSASU		271	- 90	181
Thanet Scouts Activities		- 67	- 92	- 159
Restricted				
Uniform		352	16	368
Climbing wall	6	1,693	75	1,768
Eric Spicer Memorial Fund	7	4,747	212	4,959
Martin Dias Memorial Fund	8	3,367	150	3,517
Dunbar Legacy	9	3,468	155	3,623
CT9 Fund	10	6,109	272	6,381
Downs Legacy	11	10,128	451	10,579
International	12	7,210	- 3,053	4,157
		168,977		175,086
Represented by				
CAFCash account		41,397		22,279
CAF Savings 1		25,819		31,569
CAF Savings 2		30,892		47,061
Campsite account		-		3,083
Fixed rate bond		66,000		66,000
Cash - Treasurer		1,365		956
Cash - Campsite		751		925
Badge Shop		1,791		2,434
TSASU		271		181
Thanet Scout Activities		689		597
		168,975		175,086

SUMMARY OF FUNDS

- 1 General Reserve The trustees aim to maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds at a level which would enable the Charity and the district to be supported if unprecedented events (i.e. Covid-19) occurred.
- 2 DofE negative funds at year end due to timing difference and money owed from groups at the year end.
- 3 Eurojam Ringfenced funds for those who raised funds to attend Eurojam in 2020 which was cancelled due to Covid
- 4 Campsite Reserve The trustees aim to maintain a specific reserve for the campsite in designated funds which equates to approximately eighteen months of campsite expenditure.
- 5 Campsite AED money raised at St Georges Day events
- 6 Climbing Wall funds raised towards climbing wall at Campsite
- 7 Eric Spicer Memorial Fund funds donated in memory of the late Eric Spicer to be used on general Scouting within Thanet
- 8 Martin Dias Memorial Fund funds donated in memory of the late Martin Dias to be used toward special/adventurous expeditions
- 9 Dunbar Legacy legacy to be used specifically for Pioneering Equipment
- 10 CT9 Fund Donation from the Margate Masonic Lodge to assist those facing difficulties in staying in Scouting due to financial pressures in the CT9 postcode
- 11 Legacy from the late Mrs Downs to be used for district Archery equipment and campsite improvements which will directly benefit Scouts
- 12 International Fund to be used towards International Expeditions



EXPLORER UNIT ACCOUNTS

	Warrens ESU	Spitfires ESU	Rams ESU	Phoenix ESU	Bradstowe ESU	Total
Receipts						
Camps & Activities	9,778	139	3,177	1,036	1,235	15,364
Fundraising	42	400	235	-	-	677
Uniform/Badges	178	-	60	190	43	471
Donations	46	-	10	-	-	56
Membership fees	3,000	850	-	7,036	1,477	12,363
Bank interest	-	6	-	-	-	6
Total Income	13,043	1,395	3,482	8,262	2,755	28,937
Payments						
Camps & Activities	11,560	252	1,951	150	1,502	15,414
Membership fees	1,351	1,437	4	-	-	2,792
Fundraising	-	-	82	-	-	82
Uniform/Badges	969	-	146	-	64	1,178
Donations	-	28	-	-	-	28
Group Management Charge	-	-	540	8,113	1,163	9,815
Bank charges	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Payments	13,879	1,717	2,722	8,262	2,728	29,308
Surplus/Deficit	- 836	- 322	760	-	27	- 371
Bank & Cash balances						
Balance 31/03/2023	2,112	461	659	-	896	4,127
Movement in year	- 836		760	_	27	- 371
Balance 31/03/2024	1,276	139	1,419	-	923	3,756

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Annual General Meeting Saturday 20th January 2024 - 2.00pm

Welcome by Mrs Ann Wells MBE, President

Members of the Thanet District Scout Council were welcomed to the meeting by the President, Ann Wells MBE. Ann thanked the large number of people who have supported Scouting in Thanet over the past year.

Introduction

District Lead Volunteer, Richard Horne Introduced Neil McCollum as the new District Chair.

Neil McCollum gave a breif resume of his past Scouting with 11th Brodstairs, work within the National Trust and extensive trustee experience.

Approval of the minutes of the AGM held on 3rd September 2022

The minutes were approved by a show of hands.

Annual Report by the District Treasurer and Adoption of Accounts

I am pleased to report that the District continues to be in a healthy financial state, the campsite continues to go from strength to strength and campsite income has increased on the previous year. The District is in a good financial position to develop and grow Scouting in Thanet.

We would like to thank Jonathan Spurling of Spurling Cannon for examining these accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charity Commission without charge. Due to my involvement with Spurling Cannon we are pleased to confirm that Michael Collier (Retired Chartered Accountant) has agreed to take on the Independent Examination going forward, we are very grateful to Michael for agreeing to do this, and to Spurling Cannon who have completed the Independent Examination without charge for over 30 years.

The District retains a substantial level of reserves held in investment accounts, with interest rates now increasing we are actively seeking to increase our return on investments.

The District meets the Charity Commission's Public Benefit Criteria under both the Advancement of Education and Advancement of Citizenship or Community Development Headings.

Disrtict Lead Volunteer Report

It has, of course, been a little more than a year since we last reported on all our adventures however, we will try to keep this succinct.

Wasn't it fantastic (they say while nice and dry in this heated room) to all gather together again to celebrate St Georges Day! Let's pick out the highlights! Squirrels joined us for the first time, we had a wonderful youth led renewal of our promises, gang Show delighted us with an amazing performance. And we got to showcase Thanet Scouts on the iconic Dreamland Scenic Stage. On the topic of Gang Show, in 2023 they headed back to their old stage at Birchington Village Centre where they entertained us over Easter weekend. Tickets are selling fast for this year so be sure to book your group and family visits soon.

The slogan for the UK Contingent for the 25th World Jamboree held in South Korea last summer was "Think big. Dream wild. Act Together". Well, it can safely be said that no one could quite have dreamed as wild as their adventure turned out to be and we are delighted to welcome some of the nine Explorers from Thanet who attended to tell us more. The one thing we are proud to say is that Scouting spirit remained strong and they all certainly acted together, thanks in a great part to the phenomenal efforts of the volunteers on the ground there including our own Charlotte Burring and Katrina Davenport.

Elsewhere we welcomed Oliver Perry Taylor back from his trip as part of the Kent Scouts' African Adventures programme. One which I am delighted to say that we have a significant volume of participants attending this year to Kenya, in 2025 to Botswana and in 2026 to Ghana. Also yet to come this year, after several years gap, we have participants heading to Poland, Germany and Bulgaria to hope to achieve their Explorer Belts.



Lots of old favourites were on the calendar again this year such as Beaver Health and Fitness Day where we welcomed the Squirrels along to work towards their Be Active Badge too, for Cubs, Quiz and Fizz was well attended and enjoyed by all. Both younger sections were able to revisit friendships made at their recent New Year's Parties and we look forward to seeing Beavers next month for our sleepover. Copious Chief Scout Bronze and Silver awards were celebrated at Under 1 Roof.

A new entry to the calendar was our family hikes, inviting young people and their adults to join us to enjoy the outdoors and add a tally to their Hikes badge total, with the first of these due to run again in March.

Scouts and Explorers were out in force at our pioneering and ADUTT events. 2023 was Ken's last pioneering and we thank him sincerely for everything he has done to run this valuable event for so many years. Events like these, along with the dedication of Scout section teams have resulted in 34 Chief Scout Gold awards since we last met. These robust Scout programmes combined with the drive and enthusiasm of our 14-25 have driven not only improved retention into Explorers but also a further 33 Chief Scout Platinum and Diamond Awards.

On behalf of the whole of Thanet District Scouts we join Nirav in congratulating our two newest King's Scouts; Jenny Allan and Tim Allan whose awards have been confirmed in recent days. It's been a pleasure to visit groups this year to celebrate possibly as many adult volunteers as we have young people with a combination of Good and Length of Service Awards. To all of those who received such awards this year, we reiterate our congratulations and thanks for every year of that service.

Adoption of the constitution

The constitution was apoted as POR 5.4 and accepted by a show of hands.

Approval of the number of elected members that may be elected

It was agreed by a show of hands that 4 members may be elected to the Trustee Board.

Approval of the District Lead Volunteers nomination of District Executive Chair.

Catherine Hodges nominated Neil McCollum as Chair of the District Trustee Board, and this was approved by a show of hands.

Election of District Treasurer

Richard Phillpott was nominated by Danielle Cude and seconded by Marion Astley. The nomination was accepted by a show of hands.

Election of District Secretary

Barbara Graham-Horne was nominated by Darci Arthur and seconded by Aidan McCollum. The nomination was accepted by a show of hands.

Election of members of the District Scout Council to the District Executive Committee.

Cathy Currie

Andrew Turner

Michelle Dennis

Darci Arthur

Nominated by Shirley Appleby and seconded by Benjamin Graham-Horne. The nominations were accepted.

Approval of District Commissioner's nominees to serve on the District Executive Committee

Richard Horne

Edward Morris

Tracy Dunbarton

The nominations were accepted.

Approval of the Independent Examiners

Michael Collier

This was approved.

Deputy County Commissioner Neil Gearing

Neil expressed that he was impressed with 6th Ramsgate's newly refurbished building and the amount of hard work that had gone into it. He thanked Neil McCollum, the Trustees and all in Thanet Scouting for everything they do. He talked about the up and coming changes, the World Scout Jamboree and praised our St Georges Day Celebration for it's orginality and success.

Meeting Closure

Neil said that it was exciting but challenging times ahead and closed the meeting at 2.23pm



Following the meeting, members of the World Scout Jambroee gave a presntation of their experince in South Korea

