



Odiham District Scouts

Annual Report and Accounts

For the year ended 31st December 2025

Registered Charity: 1096645

Scout Associated Registration No: 12019

www.odihamscouts.org.uk

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Objectives and Activities

What We Do

Our Purpose

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

Our Values

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

Our Vision

Our vision is by the end of 2026 we will see more people than ever enjoying and benefitting from Scouting in Odiham District, preparing futures but equipping young people with skills for life (character, practical and employable skills).

Statement from Trustees

The Trustees confirm that the charity meets the Charity Commission's Public Benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development heading

Welcome to the 2025 AGM

Welcome everyone! I hope you are enjoying the skills activity day and will stay for more sessions after the DRE which follows this AGM.

The District Trustee Board remains much the same as last year, with one new addition, Nigel Davies who has taken up the role of looking after our Data Assurance. Welcome, Nigel, I very much look forward to working with you in the future.

This will be the last AGM with David Millen as District Lead Volunteer. David has completed his 5 year term and is due for a well-deserved rest from his extensive duties as DLV. He will still hold a key role in the District Leadership Team, but concentrating on the 100th Scout Group, which he set up in 2007. It has been a pleasure to work with David during the last two years as Chair and I'm sure you will all join me in wishing him the best for the next stage of his scouting journey.

There have been some great scouting events in the District over the past year, which I will leave to our outgoing District Lead Volunteer to elaborate upon. I want to thank everyone involved for the time and commitment they have put in to making these events happen and run smoothly. Thanks also to the youth members in the District for displaying core scouting values while representing themselves, their Groups and the District at events this past year.

We are always looking for new recruits to the District Team, in a number of capacities from front line volunteers to back room support volunteers. If you'd like to get involved, get in touch! I'd love to hear from you.

Anne Lovegrove, District Chair

Achievements and Performance

District Lead Volunteer's Report for the Year 2025

In this, my fifth year as District Lead, I remain astonished at the generosity of so many adults across the District who give tirelessly of their time and energy to deliver, enable or support scouting across the district. This being the District AGM our focus is on those who support District functions. Most 'District' adults also have at least one role in a group. They're exceptional people.

Programme Team. The Programme Team helps every section in the District deliver high quality, fun, enjoyable and safe programmes. It comprises: Anna (Squirrels), Jannette (Cubs) and Graham (Scouts). They also vet and approve Nights Away Applications to ensure everyone is safe. Mark assessed applicants for their NA Permit and Alex delivered great archery events. My thanks to them all.

14-24 Team. The 14-24 Team ensures that Explorers and Young Leaders are given challenging fun and safe experiences. Explorer leaders (Charmian, Steve, Catherine, Rick, Pete, Jonathan and Carl) work very well together and Sarah coordinates upwards of 40 YL across the District, ensuring they're properly tasked and that they're recognised and rewarded. Network was dormant in 2025.

Volunteer Development Team. This team was small and shrank further in 2025. Jannette guides adults through learning and Sue became a font of knowledge with the new Membership System but, crucially, nobody focussing on recruiting, outreach, skills development or recognition. I tried but largely failed.

Support Team. QM Graham, Secretary Jane, Badge Shop Becca and Shop team Christine and Catherine all did great work in 2025 but, roles such as safety, data protection, comms and media, fundraising, growth and engagement remained empty. Here again, I tried to cover the gaps, but not particularly well.

Trustee Board. Chair Anne, Treasurer Sarah and Trustees Sue and Graham continued as Trustees, and Nigel joined to provide the Data Protection support we need. The District needs a Youth Commissioner – I am ineligible to cover that role (by nearly 40 years) despite my youthful appearance!

Successes. Despite the challenges, there was a lot of success in 2025:

- We grew. Great work by Groups across the District resulted in another year of growth in young people, admittedly only by 19 more young people but we're now at 1051 thanks to engaging programmes delivered by Groups and Units by wonderful

teams. Collaboration between Groups may help move some of the 242 children on waiting lists into gaps in existing sections. As a congratulation for being the top growing District in Jan 2025 Census, 100 of our youngsters went to a special camp at Ferny Crofts in the New Forest and had an absolute blast of a weekend, coordinated by Andy Pateman, GLV 2nd Odiham.

- We kept people safe. Minor bumps and scrapes aside, no child, young person or adult volunteer was seriously injured during any of our activities. We proved several times in 2025 that Safeguarding concerns raised by anyone are investigated and action taken where appropriate. Being on the receiving end is not a pleasant experience but Odiham has nothing to hide and the safety and welfare of children and adults comes first.
- We collectively delivered fantastic scouting experiences to over 1000 young people and assisted in their personal development, week in, week out.
- We congratulated hundreds of youngsters and adults at three District Recognition Events who had achieved their Chief Scouts Award or another significant award such as a DofE Award. Two explorers, Riley Eddiford and Thomas Banfield, earned their Kings Scout Award – the highest scouting award for young people – a stunning achievement by each of them.

Community Engagement and Assistance

Scouting in Odiham District has a very high profile across the community. Wherever something is happening you'll find scouting involved, or even leading:

- Pondtail scouts assisted Fleet Half Marathon and the 5km/10km event
- Odiham scouts took part in the raft race on the Basingstoke Canal
- Scouts in Fleet organised a whole day of celebrations to mark the 80th Anniversary of Victory in Europe Day on 8 May, a wonderful town event.
- Explorers and leaders supported Fleet Lions Fireworks in Calthorpe Park
- Most Groups helped the Poppy Appeal. Elvetham Heath youngsters even collected door to door, their £2.7K boosting the scout total to almost £10K
- Scouts organised Fleet's 17th Remembrance Parade, attended by thousands.
- Scouts in Crondall raised their profile by helping the Poppy Appeal and hosting an Open Day to recruit children and adults.

A massive thank you to all the adults who deliver an incredible programme across the district, or support it, or enable it, particularly to those with District roles – including Group Leaders who form the District Leader Team. What a great team. I have been honoured to have been your District Lead Volunteer for the last five years.

David Millen, Odiham District Lead Volunteer

Programme Team

Following the transformation within Scouts UK, we now have a Programme Team which helps every section in the District to run a safe, enjoyable and quality programme. Our Programme Team consists of the following members:

Squirrel Lead – Anna Burns
Beaver Lead – Vacant
Cub Lead – Jannette McElarney
Scouts Lead – Graham Read
14-24 Team Lead - Vacant

Squirrels

Squirrels, scouting's newest section for 4-5 year olds, launched at 100th Elvetham Heath in February 2021 and by the end of 2025 we had six dreys running weekly sessions across the District (at 1st, 2nd, 6th, 29th, 100th and 101st) with plans in place, following successful taster sessions, to launch at 28th in Crondall in January 2026.

We have between 10-20 Squirrels in each drey at any one time. Member numbers are dependent on Groups being able to meet the minimum 3 adults required to run a session and also having enough volunteers for a 1 adult : 4 children outdoor session ratio.

The Squirrels 13 activity badges and 4 challenge awards give leaders ample opportunity to put together a fun programme and as dreys have become more established and with leaders staying within the section for longer, groups have been able to benefit from creating a two year rolling programme, re-running tried and tested sessions and activities. Termly planning meetings and a WhatsApp group have enabled volunteers across the District to get together in person to compare notes and share resources and ideas. Our third year of a joint annual picnic and fun day with dreys from Blackwater Valley was a highlight of the year.

Squirrels have very much enjoyed sessions with guest facilitators and speakers e.g. science experiments and rocket building, clay modelling, a pilot, yoga, athletics club. Off site sessions have included woodland and canal path hikes, scavenger hunts, obstacle course building, and visits to local supermarkets. Challenges have included behaviour management and code of conduct setting at times when there's been

several new starters at once or the majority in the dreys have been older children. Finding new volunteers willing to take on behind the scenes planning and preparation in advance of sessions rather than just being able to offer a hand on the day is a challenge and for some dreys low numbers of children on waiting lists is also impacting future terms.

In summary 2025 has been another fun year for the Squirrels and enjoyable for the volunteers. Collaboration, sharing resources and ideas and working alongside other dreys has been useful and made volunteering easier. We are planning more collaborative working in 2026.

Anna Burns, District Squirrels Lead

Cubs

We started 2025 with an archery weekend for all the cubs in one of the empty units in the Hart Shopping centre.

Saturday was a practice day with tuition given to the 37 cubs from Odiham District who came. Sunday was the competition day when 23 took part.

We were also joined by cubs from Rotherwick and Hawley, in Bramshill District.

The highest individual score in the competition was 71 points for a 2nd Odiham Town cub with 1 from 29th Phoenix in second place and 1 from 29th Griffin in 3rd place. Their medals were presented at their following pack meeting.

We were invited to take part in the first county Top Trumps competition. 29th Griffin pack volunteered to represent Odiham at the competition since none of the other packs were interested at the time.

So 6 of the cubs and 2 leaders travelled down to Eastleigh for the day and 1 of the cubs from 29th Pondtail won the over 9 ½ competition to become the county champion!

In the summer term we ran an evening of athletics at CourtMoor school.

128 cubs attended .

The winners were 2nd Odiham with an average of 15 points per cub. Runners up were 101st with 13.66 points and 100th with 12.91. In total, 25 cubs gained their athlete badge and 87 cubs earned their athlete plus activity badge.

In November we held a Rock council meeting for cub leaders to plan events for next year including a celebratory 110th birthday party in July 2026.

Jannette McElarney, District Cub Lead

Scouts

All of the scout sections across the district continued an active programme throughout the year, and many also included an "away from the local area" camp into the programme, everything from a visit to the Jurassic coast through to water activities on the south coast judging by the many NAN's that were signed off.

All of these camps take a great deal of leader time in preparation, execution and often require volunteers using their own work annual leave - so on behalf of all those scouts who went on camps, thank you.

We held one district event last year (2025)- the model making competition. Participation numbers were low, but the few that did take part produced some great models for judging.

Graham Read, District Scout Lead

14-24 Team

Scouting for 14-24 year olds includes Explorer Units, Young Leaders and Network.

Lead for the 14-24 Team for many years, Douglas Millard, stood down in Dec 2025. We thank Douglas for his service. He remains a Shooting Instructor and NAA.

Odiham **Network** was dormant in 2025. Previous attempts to offer challenge and adventure to 18-24 year-olds proved unsuccessful. However Andrew Parker (GLV 101st) re-launched Network in 2026. Please spread the word to all aged 18 to 24.

Young Leaders (YL) increased in 2025 to a total of 44. Of these, 38 are Explorer Scouts, five are virtual explorers and one is working towards their DofE Award. Three YL attended the Hampshire Scouts YL rally. Cody de Lacey completed his YL Award, a great achievement, and two YL have joined Scouting as adults. We welcome Sophia Morriss (101st) and Daniel Burleigh (29th) to the team.

Explorer Units continue to thrive in Fleet, Crookham and Odiham. Sadly Pegasus has been suspended due to low numbers, but closer working with the 28th Crondall may see a revival. Unit Leaders of Arrowheads (Catherine), Astra (Peter), Castle (Carl), Chieftains (Jonathan), Endurance (Rick), FleeT-Rex (Steve) have been delivering great programmes and collaborating so that explorers have a huge variety of events and experiences to enjoy. In 2025 explorers achieved much success, thanks to support from parents and guidance from leader teams:

- 19 DofE Bronze Awards were earned including: Tara Buckley, Rocco Schlieben, Benjamin Coley, Edward Goddard, Megan Caine, Dylan Masters, Daniel Leaning
- 7 DofE Silver Awards were earned, including by George Jacobs
- 1 DofE Gold Award was earned, by Riley Eddiford
- 2 Chief Scouts Diamond Awards were earned, including George Jacobs
- 5 Chief Scouts Platinum Awards were earned, including by Rocco Schlieben
- A rare Chief Scouts Commendation for Meritorious Conduct was awarded to Louis Bridges for his swift and selfless response to a traffic accident in Fleet
- The top award for young people in Scouting – the **Kings Scout Award** – was earned by both Thomas Banfield and Riley Eddiford and presented by the County Lead Volunteer

David Millen, Odiham District Lead Volunteer

District Support Team

The District Support Team is made up of volunteers covering the District Shop, Badge Secretary, Disclosure Support and Secretary to the Trustee Board.

The District Shop continues to offer uniform items to all members of the district. In 2025 the shop moved online to allow parents and carers to view stock levels and order in advance of visiting the shop. Payment is now via credit or debit card. We are still able to take orders in person, subject to stock availability and mobile signal –

which we hope will improve over time. The shop is run by volunteers and at the moment is open every other Saturday morning. Opening dates can be found on the website <http://shop.odihamscouts.org.uk>

We are now offering bags of obsolete badges for any young person who will be undertaking an international trip and would like to purchase badges for swapping. The badge site can be found at <http://badges.odihamscouts.org.uk>

Susan Carroll, Support Team Leader, Odiham District Scouts

Adult Awards

Congratulations to all our Adult Members who have been rewarded for their service to Scouts.

Award for Merit - **Pete Robertson**

Chief Scouts Commendation for Meritorious Conduct - **Louis Bridges**

Length of Service Awards

5 Years

**Colin Slade
Fiona Barnes
Somasundaram Sadasivam
Katrina Gibbs
Craig Goddard
Suzanne Stinchcombe
Susan Waddams
Zoe Phillips
Lawrence Roberts
Mark Allen**

10 Years

**Kerry De Lacey
Susan Carroll
Adele Redgrave
Dawn Eddiford
Gareth Evans
Antony Bridges
Helen Howell**

15 Years

**Jerome Farrell
Mark Hensby
Jeremy Styles**

20 Years

**Mark Medler
Nathan De Lacey**

25 Years

**Tracey Nash
Mark Brook**

30 Years

Philip Smith

Financial Review

Annual Accounts

Report to the Trustees of Odiham District Scout Council (Charity Number: 1096645)

On the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2025

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity (“the Trust”) for the year ended 31 / 12/ 2025. 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 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 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.

Name: Nicholas D Walton

Relevant professional qualification: Accountant

Date: 25/02/2026

Treasurers Report

The District reported a loss of £35,589 for the year. This total is distorted by the Nordic 25 figure due to money having been collected the previous year and all payouts taking place this year. Removing the Nordic 25 figure we reported a loss of £1,227. This is mainly due to the Trustee board agreeing to subsidise the district annual membership fees for units in order to alleviate some pressure with increasing costs of living.

All Explorer monies goes through the district so this can affect the overall profit and loss for the district. All units manage their own budget ensuring that that there is enough money for occupancy fees and other costs

The District still has cash reserves of just over £12,000. The total "Cash Funds" balance of £34,710 also includes the Explorer sections balance's including a new unit called Castle (£17,465) and the Centenary Fund (£5,000).

As previously mentioned, The District Executive Committee made the decision to forego a charge for the 2025 Annual Membership fee. This will not be repeated next year and a charge will be made.

The accounts have been sent to an auditor and returned with no issues.

Sarah Napier, District Treasurer

INCOME

	Note	2025	2024
District Income			
Annual membership fees	1	£62,952	£56,005
Donations to District		£684	£2,353
Donations received for Groups		£1,500	£2,635
Refund of Explorer expenses paid by credit card		£1,484	£2,848
Misc. District fundraising		£16	-
Scout Activities			£85
Squirrel Activities			£50
Badges		£8,346	£7,581
Shop		£3,376	£5,439
Bank Charges	2	£1	£6
Bank Interest		£525	£570
Explorers Income			
Subscriptions		£21,168	£17,624
Activities		£12,498	£11,572
Fundraising		£5,169	£8,351
Nordic 25		£32,528	£41,686
Clothing for resale			-
Total		£150,247	£156,803
Cost of sales adj for stock		£1,024	-£116
Total		£151,271	£156,687

EXPENDITURE**District Expenditure**

Annual membership fees	1	£62,952	£53,735
Donations repaid to Groups		£1,500	£2,635
Online Scout Manager District Subsidy		£1,210	£1,210
Insurance		£359	£480
Bank Charges		£59	£96
Occupation	4	£750	£1,000
Contributions to Groups			£200
Badges		£8,587	£7,344
Shop		£2,626	£2,412
AGM & trustee expenses		£452	£462
Other costs	3	£347	£556
District Activities		£178	£48
Squirrel Activities		-	£93
Cub Activities		£49	£79
Scout Activities		£107	£51
Young Leader Activities		-	£43
Explorer Activities			£250

Explorer Expenditure

Annual Membership fees		£8,174	£6,440
Subs refund		-	£430
Activities		£24,477	£24,011
Online Scout Manager Fees		£151	£38
Occupation		£5,579	£1,131
Shop purchases		£217	£464
Badge purchases		£80	£141
Capital expenditure		£601	£4,740
Repayment to District for items paid by credit card		£1,465	£2,897
Fundraising costs		£50	£64
Nordic 25		£66,890	£10,718

Total		<u>£186,860</u>	<u>£121,767</u>
Income/Deficit for the year		<u>-£35,589</u>	<u>£34,920</u>

Odiham District Scouts Balance Sheet

For the year ended 31st December 2025

Cash Balance	-	£79
Barclays Bank Current Account	£2,681	£763
Barclays Bank Deposit Account	£14,564	£18,342
Lloyds Bank Current Account	£3,297	£757
Lloyds Bank Deposit Account	£14,169	£51,464
Total Cash Funds	£34,711	£71,405

Represented by funds

Explorers	£17,313	£19,686
Nordic 25 (restricted)	£153	£31,383
Centenary fund (restricted)	£5,000	£5,000
District funds	£12,245	£15,336
	£34,711	£71,405

Notes

- 1 District Levy this year was 0 due to the District subsidising due to increase cost of living
- 2 Bank incorrectly charging and then refunding
- 3 Media Licence, accounting tool subscription & Keys cut
- 4 Due to online banking issues the Last quarter of occupation fee was paid beginning of Jan 2026

The policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the charity should income and fundraising activities fall short. The Trustee Board considers that the charity should hold a sum equivalent to 12 months running costs, circa £4,000. The charity held reserves of approximately £12,000 against this at year end. This is above the level for operating expenses.

The charity's reserves are small and as a consequence does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer-term investments such as stocks and shares. The charity has therefore adopted a low risk strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies.

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity'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 (POR) of The Scout Association.

The charity is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Scouts. It is constituted as an educational charity.

The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.

All Trustees complete The Scout Association trustee and mandatory learning within the first six months of joining the Trustee Board, they also complete other Scout Association mandatory learning periodically as required.

The charity is managed by the Trustee Board, the members of which are the "Charity Trustees". 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 the Chair, Treasurer and 3 Trustees (including 3 Ex-Officio Trustees, and 2 co-opted Trustees) and meets 4 times a year. The Trustee Board is supported by a District Secretary.

The Trustee Board exists to support the Leadership Teams in meeting the responsibilities of their appointments and in supporting them to run high-quality and safe programs that give young people skills for life. The Trustee Board maintain appropriate governance policies and oversight.

The Trustee Board is responsible for carrying out its purposes for the public benefit, complying with the charity's governing document and the law, and managing the charity's resources responsibly. The Trustee Board is responsible for ensuring the charity is well managed, risks are assessed and mitigated, buildings and equipment are in good order and everyone follows legal requirements and Scout Association Policy, Organisation & Rules.

This includes responsibility for:

- Promoting a positive image of Scouting in the community, as well as its development;
- Developing, maintaining and regularly a risk register, including putting in place appropriate mitigations;
- Ensuring that the finances are properly managed, and there are sufficient resources (and reserves) to deliver high quality Scouting;

- Ensuring a system of internal controls is in place that is designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss;
-
- Ensuring that property is appropriately managed; ·
- Maintaining appropriate insurance of persons, property and equipment;
- Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support; ·
- Having an open and transparent selection process for the recruitment of Trustees; ·
- Appointing Advisors as required; ·
- Ensuring effective administration is in place to support the Trustee Board; ·
- Ensuring compliance with applicable governance and charity regulations, including in respect to safety and safeguarding; ·
- Ensuring incidents are appropriately reported in line with regulation and policy; ·
- Ensuring applicable policies and regulations are regularly reviewed and changes implemented as appropriate; ·
- Ensuring transparency of operations, including in the preparation of accounts and holding and AGM; ·
- Ensuring compliance with Data Protection legislation; ·
- Acting as a responsible employer for any employees, who are effectively managed.

Plans for Future Periods

In 2026, Odiham District will seek to fill the few remaining trustee positions on the Board and provide mutual support to all so that no trustee is over committed. We will continue our review of District policies and bring them all up to date, particularly our Finance Policy, Data Management, Protection and Retention and Governance. As we do so we will connect with neighbouring Districts to find out how they are tackling issues that are inevitably common to all Districts; collaboration can often pay dividends.

Trustees will consolidate their understanding of their roles and will also reach out to the Groups to offer support if the Group's own trustee boards lack the experience and expertise of District trustees. Sharing experiences and supporting each other may be warmly welcomed by groups with unfilled trustee roles.

Reference and Administration Data

Principle Address: Crondall Scout Centre, Pankridge Street, Crondall, Farnham, Surrey, GU10 5RQ

Odiham District Trustee Board

Anne Lovegrove	District Chair
David Millen	District Lead Volunteer
Sarah Napier	District Treasurer
Susan Carroll	District Support Team Lead
Graham Read	Property and Equipment
Nigel Davies	Data Assurance IN PROGRESS

Supported by

Jane Penny	District Secretary
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Independent Examiner

Nicholas Walton

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees by:

Signature	A. Lovegrove	D. Millen
Full name	Anne Lovegrove	David Millen
Position held	Chair	DLV
Date	21/04/2026	21/04/2026

Thank you

On behalf of all the young people who benefit from Scouting in Odiham, thank you to all our dedicated volunteers across the District and in each of our Groups who give their time freely to make Scouting happen.