

The Malverns District Scout Council

Registered Charity No: 1030019

Trustees Annual Report

1st April 2008 to 31st March 2009



District Secretary: C/o 9 Lansdowne Terrace, Malvern, WR 14 2AR

In accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of the Scout Association, our Mission is to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible members of their local, national and international communities.

The method of achieving this is by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training, based on the Scout Promise and Law and guided by adult leadership.

The purpose of the Scout District is to provide leadership, advice and support for ten Scout Groups (1st, 2nd & 7th Malvern, 1st Malvern Link, 1st Malvern Wells, 1st Leigh, 1st Ledbury, 1st Colwall, 1st Cradley and 1st Upton-upon-Severn); to Explorer Scouts and Scout Network; all in association with Scout Fellowship and the Baden Powell Guild (the Movement's elders)

Groups are autonomous and have exciting opportunities for Beaver Scouts (aged 6-8 years), Cub Scouts (aged 8-10/11), Scouts (aged 10/11-14/15). Explorer Scouts (aged 14/15-18) and Scout Network (18-25 years) continues the progressive award scheme. From 14 years of age, youngsters can become 'young leaders' in the younger age Sections.

President:	Mr Ralph Storer (until his death in January.)
Vice President:	Julie Wacey
Trustees:	
District Commissioner:	Derek Barnes
District Chairman:	Richard Beckett
District Treasurer:	John MacMillan
District Secretary:	Ken Allcock
Secretary of Appointments Advisory Sub-committee:	Geraldine Shaw

Local Training Manager:	Eddie Gover
District Commissioner Explorer Scouts:	Adrian Ward
Assistant District Commissioner Scouts:	Dick Brocklehurst
Assistant District Commissioner Cub Scouts:	June Etheridge
Assistant District Commissioner Beaver Scouts:	Maureen Puffett
Assistant District Commissioner Support:	Helen Ryman
District Camp Site Warden:	Les Lane
District Camp Site Administrator:	Pete Ashcroft
Scout Fellowship Chairman:	Mike Sneath
BP Guild Representative	Allan Page
Badge Secretary	Bev Brocklehurst

The Malverns District is just one unit in the global Scout Movement which has a youth membership of over 28 million in 216 counties and territories.

The District's governing documents are those of the Scout Association. They consist of a Royal Charter, granted on January 4, 1912, which in turn gives authority to The Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR) of The Scout Association.

The District is a trust and an educational charity, established under The Association's rules that are common to all Scouts.

The Trustees, with the District Executive Committee, manage the District and meets every 2 months. It is responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities. This includes registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission and Scout Association, as appropriate.

The District Executive Committee exists to develop and support Scouting in the District and is responsible for:

- Helping Groups and Leaders in meeting their responsibilities;
- The maintenance of District property;
- The raising of funds and the administration of District finance;
- The insurance of persons, property and equipment;
- Assisting in the recruitment and training of adult volunteers;
- Appointing any sub committees that may be required;
- Appointing District Administrators and Advisors other than those who are elected.
- District Scouting activities and public occasions;

Risk & Internal Controls: The District has in place systems of internal controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss; these include 2 signatories for all payments and comprehensive insurance policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

Contribution by Volunteers: The District is extremely fortunate to attract a Team of talented and committed volunteers who impact directly and indirectly on the District's activities. Derek Barnes was appointed District Commissioner from April 2008. The District does not employ any worker.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year:

- Encouraged groups to undertake a 'Health Check' and review development plans, resulting in an 8% increase in District membership.
- Improved communications by constructing a new 'up-to-date' website portal,
- Implemented changes to the adult recruitment and appointments process, with all adults having initial and regular CRB checks,
- Supported the development of 1st Malvern Wells and 1st Cradley Groups,
- Constructed of a new storage building and continued improving/maintaining Warren Oak District Campsite,
- Assisted in recruiting / appointing & inducting 19 adult volunteer leaders/assistants,
- Trained and supported volunteer leaders,
- Organised District activities for young members in all four Sections.

Challenges: The opportunity to open new Sections in existing Groups, where vacancies exist, and to strengthen some existing Sections, satisfying the demand for Scouting in the District, is dependent on further recruitment of adults as leaders, officers, administrators and supporters.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves Policy:

The District's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the group should income and fundraising activities fall short. Trustees considers that the group should hold a sum equivalent to 12 months running costs, excluding subscriptions payable to HQ and County, circa £5k. The District held reserves of approximately £18k against this at year-end. This is above the level required for operating expenses.

Investment Policy: The District does not have sufficient funds to invest in long-term investments. The Group has therefore adopted a risk adverse strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies.

The trustees approved the above report, accounts and statement of assets and liabilities on May 20, 2009

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signatures:

Full names:

Position: District Chairman District Treasurer

Date:

The Malverns – Census (at 31st January)

	2007	2008	2009
No. of Groups	10	10	10
Beaver Scouts	81	97	114
Cub Scouts	183	201	210
Scouts	165	164	170
Explorer Scouts	36	45	51
Young Leaders			
TOTAL YOUTH MEMBERSHIP	465	507	545
Section Leaders	67	77	93
Assistants & Skills Instructors	14	20	16
District Commissioners	1	3	3
TOTAL LEADERSHIP	90	107	112
District Administrators	3	2	2
District Office Bearers	2	3	3
Scout Fellowship	10	11	14
TOTAL DISTRICT SUPPORT	15	16	19
Female Members	73	87	112
Male Members	497	543	568
TOTAL MEMBERS	570	630	680