



SHIRLEY and DISTRICT (UNIT 481) OF THE SEA CADET CORPS
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 507868

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF SHIRLEY and DISTRICT (UNIT 481) OF THE SEA CADET CORPS

The Charity Trustees present their report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2024. The financial statements comply with both the Charity's Constitution and the Charities Act 2011.

Aim of the Sea Cadet Corps

The aim of the Sea Cadets Corps is to give young people the best possible head start in life, through nautical adventure and fun, based on the customs and traditions of the Royal Navy. Our aim is to develop young people and support them towards responsible adulthood.

Charitable Purpose

The charitable purpose of the Unit is to promote the development of young people in achieving their physical, intellectual and social potential as individuals and as responsible citizens. This is achieved by the provision of education and leisure time activities using a nautical theme, based on the traditions of the Royal Navy and in accordance with the principles, ethos and practices of the Marine Society & Sea Cadets (MSSC).

In furtherance of the Purpose, the Unit offers young people a structured environment in which to develop; provides access to education and training including sailing, rowing, windsurfing, paddle sports, power boating, seamanship, navigation, marine engineering, cooking, music, first aid, drill, piping, and public services; it provides opportunities for young people to obtain a range of qualifications and a wide range of opportunities for community involvement.

Public Benefit

The trustees continue to give regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit 'Charities and Public Benefit' provided by the Unit in relation to the charitable purpose of the Sea Cadets movement as set out in the activities and achievements as outlined in this report.

To achieve its aim the Unit encourages recruitment of young people from all backgrounds and abilities including where possible, and within the realms of Health and Safety, those with disabilities and develops their skills and abilities by:

- Regular structured activities with a nautical theme
- Enabling young people to take part in activities connected with the wider Sea Cadet Corps
- Movement such as waterborne activities, events and competitions at district, area and national levels
- Availability of formal achievements whilst completing courses to earn badges and promotions

Organisational Achievements and Performance

Trustees Report

Chairman's Report

By our standards Shirley unit has had a quiet year. I'm pleased to report that our extension has been completed, and several weekend training courses have been run as a result of this new facility. Cadets and adults have travelled as far as Surrey, Cornwall and South Wales to attend courses.

Our cadet numbers remain at the limit we are allowed to have, and our adult volunteer numbers remain stable. With a few new additions. Unfortunately, we have lost two long standing members, Mr and Mrs Patrick (37 years' service) who passed away in January 2024. This was a real blow to the unit due to the services they offered our unit.

I'm pleased to report that our finances remain very strong and well managed both from an income point of view and expenditure. We have managed to increase the numbers of income streams and will endeavour to maintain or hopefully increase these with the help of our fund raisers and unit supporters.

The sea cadet corps have once again supported us in helping to upgrade some of our facilities, notably our fire alarm system and replacement floors.

As always, Shirley Sea Cadets has some ambitious plans for 24/25, we would like to see our facilities at Olton Mere improved and create an activity area using the gravelled area between our car park and perimeter fencing.

The sea cadet corps has had its funding cut drastically, and this is having an impact on our offer to the cadets, but given our excellent adult base and fantastic facilities, I believe we are in a very good place to once again provide our young people with some great experiences and learning.

Commanding Officer's Report

After another satisfying year for Shirley Sea cadets with the completion of the new Training Block and the formal opening by the Captain of the Sea Cadet Corp., the new Classroom facility has started to make a big impact on the unit with not only providing more space but encouragingly the district and Area teams starting to take advantage of the new facility. This has seen us cater for not only Cadet courses but adult training weekends and courses alike.

This year has seen us continue the trend as our cadet numbers recover from the aftermath of the pandemic, with cadet numbers back to where we would normally like to see them. The POC and LC cadet programme we have implemented has now started to take fruition.

The unit boating hours and qualifications have risen this year, this has been helped immensely by the increase in qualified boating staff and the variety of boating experience we have been able to offer.

Our offshore voyages have taken a little dip mainly due to the way courses are now booked and the fact that some courses had to be cancelled.

This year has seen an increase in our participation at Area and National competitions, with several of our cadets taking part in various events.

We have carried on with our Adventure Training activities with mountain biking and hill walking at the fore, we also had our unit bank holiday weekend away at the Long Mynd in Shropshire. This was well supported by both Cadets and the adults from the unit with over 50 attending.

This year's community events have included, as usual, supporting the Royal British Legion with various events, but a return to parading to the church for Remembrance Sunday with almost a full turn out for the unit was quite memorable.

The inaugural Mayor's Cadet handed over the baton to AC Hart who has seamlessly continued the mayoral duties from LC Kane. The Solihull Mayor's office has been fantastic in supporting the cadets and involving them within their duties as and when they have been able.

In general, it has been a good year all-round for Shirley Sea Cadets and with plans in place will only get better.

Reserves Policy

The trustees continue to review the charity's requirements for reserves in light of the main risk to the organisation, that being a reduction of income. The trustees have established a policy whereby the reserves in total that are not invested in tangible fixed assets held by the Unit, should be up to the equivalent to 6 months overhead costs of the charity.

The level of these reserves has been determined by the need to meet the working capital requirements of the charity and also for the charity to carry out all of its legal obligations.

At the end of March 2024, the total of the charity's reserves stood at £26,887 of which £7,997 was restricted and £18,890 unrestricted.

The financial strategy of the trustees continues to be that of building the reserves which will be achieved by continually reviewing overheads, exploring additional means of income and further fundraising. The trustees will continue to take all necessary actions with regard to the prevailing economic climate.

Structure, Governance and Management

Units of the SCC are formed solely by volunteers in local communities. Each Unit is a self-supporting youth organisation and an independent charity with a central support management and training structure provided primarily by the Marine Society and Sea Cadets (MSSC). The unit becomes a part of the SCC by virtue of its' affiliation to the MSSC, the parent body of the SCC. In accepting this affiliation, the unit undertakes to comply with all regulations issued by, or on behalf of, the MSSC Council.

The Unit was registered as an unincorporated charity on 24th August 1978 and is governed by a constitution approved by the Charity Commission of England and Wales. A revised constitution issued by the Marine Society and Sea Cadets was ratified by the Board of Trustees between meetings in December 2017 in order to meet the deadline of 31st December 2017.

Recruitment and Appointment of the Trustees

Trustees serve and are re-elected on an annual basis. A minimum of 4 office holders: Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Commanding Officer. UMT office holders are elected at the first meeting following the Annual General Meeting (AGM). UMT members are elected from the membership of the Sea Cadets Unit which is drawn loosely as being those with an interest in the unit. The constitution lays down specific controls for UMT membership and will be observed for all future recruitment.

In the event of a vacancy arising during the year (known as a casual vacancy), the trustees have the power to appoint new trustees. A trustee will serve until the date of the next AGM, after which the post will be filled by election.

The trustees are represented by a wide range of individuals drawn from the local community. Trustees have the power to appoint additional trustees to act jointly with them for all purposes. A trustee whose term of office has expired can be appointed for a further term of office.

Responsibilities of the Trustees

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charity (Accounts Reports) Regulations 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees and signed on its behalf on 7th October 2024

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SD Marland'.

Simon Marland, Chair of the Board of Trustees

Legal and Administrative Information

Charity Details:

Charity Name: Shirley & District Unit No. 481 of the Sea Cadets Corps
Charity Status: Unincorporated
Registered Charity No: 507868
Registered Office and Operational Address: 9 Velsheda Road,
Shirley, Solihull
West Midlands
B90 2JL
Telephone Number 0121 733 7115
Email: shirleyseacadets@btconnect.com
Website www.sea-cadets.org/shirley

Trustees:

Chair: Mr Simon Marland
Treasurer: Mr Ian Langston
Secretary: Mrs Anne Hart
Trustees: Mr Neil Merchant
Mr Kenneth McNally
Mrs Barbara Doveston
Miss Mandy Harrison
Mr Christopher Hughes

President: Mr Trevor Beattie

Holding (Custodian) Trustees: The Marine Society & Sea Cadets (MSSC)

Independent Examiners: Thomas & Young Limited

Bank: Lloyds Shirley Branch

Acknowledgements

Shirley and District Unit 481 of the Sea Cadets Corps would like to publicly acknowledge and thank the following organisations and donors for their financial support during 2023/2024.

Air Cadets 492 Squadron
Amazon Europe Core
Asda Foundation
Baron Davenports
Dumbreck Charity
Mr. and Mrs. Golder
Grantham Yorke Trust
Groundwork UK
Mr. Harry Black
Marine Society and Sea Cadets (MSSC)
Pastures New Quilting
Sainsburys Vets
Shirley Lions Club
Solihull Mayoral Fund
Solihull Round Table
The Grimmit Trust
The Gosling Foundation
Trevor Beattie
William Cadbury Charitable Trust
Warwickshire Masons
Worcestershire Mason

No final report would be complete without acknowledging the efforts and dedicated service of the adult volunteers who make the unit a success. For any Sea Cadet Unit to succeed it is fully reliant on its teams to work together. Our uniformed and civilian instructors, management team and unit assistants all have one common aim, that of delivering the best experience for our young people.

In this modern age, time is a precious commodity and like with all teachers and trainers there is a lot goes on behind the scenes, outside of parade times and over weekends that is not observed but makes the difference.

Thank you for your commitment and continued support.

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
SHIRLEY and DISTRICT (UNIT 481) OF THE SEA CADET CORPS.**

I report on the financial statements of Shirley and District (Unit 481) of the Sea Cadet Corps for the year ended 31st March 2024 which are set out on pages 10 to 14.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

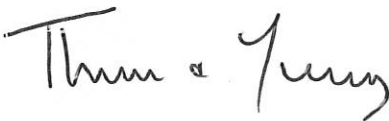
I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 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.



Mark McLean FCA

Date:

18/11/24.

On Behalf of

Thomas & Young Limited, Chartered Accountants
Carleton House, 266-268 Stratford Rd, Shirley, B90 3AD

SHIRLEY & DISTRICT (TS GAMECOCK) NO. 481 OF THE SEA CADET CORPS
Receipts & Payments Account for the period 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023/2024	2022/2023
RECEIPTS					
Donations	1	21752	21550	43302	31579
Fundraising	2	1702	0	1702	3040
Charitable Activities	3	12132	2447	14579	15058
Generated Income	4	15893	0	15893	15411
Investments	5	163	0	163	32
Ward Room Receipts	6	2184	0	2184	3302
TOTAL RECEIPTS		53826	23997	77823	68423
PAYMENTS					
Raising Funds	7	1401	0	1401	1649
Charitable Activity	8	10978	4734	15712	21266
Overheads	9	15051	0	15051	10732
Maintenance	10	23542	4000	27542	5302
Other	11	606	0	606	2126
Governance Costs	12	3405	0	3405	1102
Ward Room Expenditure	13	3874	0	3874	3871
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		58857	8734	67591	46048
ASSETS & INVESTMENTS					
	14				
Fixed Assets		17245	65	17311	112563
Investment		0	0	0	0
		17245	65	17311	112563
TOTAL PAYMENTS		76102	8799	84901	158611
Net incoming resources		-22276	15198	-7078	-90188
Transfer between funds		13695	-13695	0	0
Cash funds from last year		27470	6495	33965	124153
TOTAL CASH FUNDS		18890	7997	26887	33965

SHIRLEY & DISTRICT (TS GAMECOCK) NO. 481 OF THE SEA CADET CORPS

Notes to the Accounts

<u>Income</u>	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023/2024	2022/2023
	£	£	£	£
1 Donations				
MSSC Annual Fund/Grant	0	16000	16000	10000
Other Grants	994	4550	5544	
Other Donations	20758	1000	21758	21579
	21752	21550	43302	31579
2 Fundraising				
Fundraising	1285		1285	1733
Special Events	417		417	1307
	1702	0	1702	3040
3 Charitable Events				
Cadet Contribution	9562	400	9962	10991
MSSC Refunds	1870	1497	3367	1738
Competition Receipts	0		0	0
Course Fees	505	550	1055	2249
Sundry	195		195	
Other Revenue Receipts	0			80
	12132	2447	14579	15058
4 Generated Income				
Sales of Fixed Assets	0		0	0
Gift Aid	2213		2213	0
Other Refunds	899		899	0
Sales of Sundry Items	0			0
Contribution for Room Usage	11475		11475	13405
Sea Cadet Victualling	1307		1307	2006
	15893	0	15893	15411
5 Investments				
Bank Deposit Interest	163		163	32
	163	0	163	32
6 Ward Room Receipts				
Ward Room Takings	1894		1894	3202
Minibus fund from Unit AC	0		0	0
Other Donations	0		0	100
Special Events	290		290	0
	2184	0	2184	3302

SHIRLEY & DISTRICT (TS GAMECOCK) NO. 481 OF THE SEA CADET CORPS

Notes to the Accounts

Expenditure	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023/2024	2022/2023
	£	£	£	£
7 Raising Funds				
Fundraising (Victualling)	1401		1401	1499
Fundraising (Other)	0			125
Special Events	0			25
	1401	0	1401	1649
8 Direct Charitable Activities				
Competitions	118		118	0
Travel & Fuel	2665		2665	2147
Catering	3728		3728	6191
Training and Courses	723	2029	2752	7792
Course & Subs Refunds	50		50	77
Uniform & Badges	573		573	953
Other Cadet Activities	1640	2705	4345	2746
Subscriptions & Memberships	1480		1480	1360
	10978	4734	15712	21266
9 Overheads				
Council Tax	228		228	614
Electricity	8450		8450	6571
Phone & Internet	1067		1067	819
Postage, Printing & Stationary	1711		1711	433
IT Costs	92		92	0
Insurance	3503		3503	2295
	15051	0	15051	10732
10 Maintenance				
Buildings	18795	4000	22795	2827
Bikes	848		848	98
Boating	717		717	1208
Vehicles	1143		1143	372
Computers & Other Equipment	778		778	50
H&S	1261		1261	748
	23542	4000	27542	5302
11 Other				
Macmillan Donation	0			
Sundry Costs	606		606	2126
	606	0	606	2126
12 Governance Costs				
Independent Examination	690		690	660
Accounts Preparation	0		0	0
Legal Costs	0			0
Licences	2715		2715	442
	3405	0	3405	1102

13 Ward Room Expenditure

Stock	2663		2663	2520
Special Events	286		286	317
Licences	180		180	180
Minibus fund	746		746	853
	3874	0	3874	3871

14 Assets & Investments

Equipment (Boating)	2331		2331	1015
Rowing Machines	0		0	0
Equipment (Bikes)	5700		5700	0
Equipment (Camping)	0		0	798
Equipment (Computing)	0		0	0
Gazebos	2776		2776	0
Folding Camp Beds	1369		1369	0
Extension Project	2390	65	2455	110675
Radio Mics	1206		1206	0
Boat Storage Rack	0			0
Other Miscellaneous	1475		1475	75
Investment	0			0
	17245	65	17311	112563