



Annual General Meeting 2024

Nominations

Trustee Manifestos are provided here for the positions available for election at the Annual General Meeting.

All elections are subject to a satisfactory basic Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check, and two satisfactory references.

Treasurer: Stuart Innes (Stu1981)

Proposed by: Mark Butterworth

Seconded by: Darren Wayne and David Hanley

Stuart has applied for the role of Treasurer, completed an application and has been interviewed for the role by Trustees. The Board recommends that the membership vote FOR Stuart to be elected to the board of trustees.



The role of a Trustee within any organisation is a massive commitment, I fully understand this. Although I have a busy professional and personal life, filled by OutdoorLads, I feel the commitment of my time and effort will have a far greater and reaching impact on others. My professional life, as a Commissioned Officer in the Army, is founded on the principle of 'Serve to Lead'. As a beneficiary, I feel a natural duty to offer my service to the contribution of the sustainment and growth of OutdoorLads. Without committed individuals to manage the administration, organisations fail and disappear – I've personally gained too much to think about this happening. I believe the knowledge, skills and behaviours gained over 22 years of military service will allow me to add value.

The values of the British Army are attributes I believe I personally instil in my own personal life, and I will bring to the Board of Trustees.

Courage

Physical – OutdoorLads is about challenging yourself and supporting others in their journey to overcome issues/aspect through physical activity.

Moral – The confidence to do and say what is 'right' when others may not. I'd be there to ensure correct assurance of policy, process, and governance.

Discipline

This follows the basics of knowing right from wrong – leading by example.

Respect for Others

Respecting the views and beliefs of others, as a community we are stronger, and progressive when accepting of others.

Integrity

As a Treasurer one of the most important values, I believe you can have. The financial integrity of OutdoorLads is paramount, and as the Treasurer I would deliver in this respect.

Loyalty

I consider myself a very loyal person, this is inclusive of loyalty to the organisation, the Board, and its members – the most important element.

Selfless Commitment

There will be a requirement at times to place the needs of OutdoorLads, before my own, by submitting this application, I commit to this.

My professional career as a Senior HR and Financial Manager for the Army provides the opportunity to work alongside the Charities Commission. Each Regiment within the Army manages Service Charitable Funds (SCF). The Admin Officer has the responsibility to ensure Constitutions are maintained and applied. All Governance roles and responsibilities achieved. As the Internal Auditor assurance was provided to the Commander, providing Statement of Accounts to SCF Trustees. All well-tuned skills that have been developed over the past 22 years.

Trustee for Staff and Members: Joe Bailey (joebayleaf)

Proposed by: Matt Tennant

Seconded by: Allan Jones

Joe is an existing trustee in the Representative Member role. He has applied for the role of Trustee for Staff and Members, completed an application and has been interviewed by Trustees. The Board recommends that the membership vote FOR Joe to be re-elected to the Board of Trustees.



I am writing to apply for a Trustee position at OutdoorLads, a charity that has greatly enriched my life since I joined in 2021. Serving as a Members Representative Trustee has been an immensely rewarding experience, and I am eager to continue contributing to the organisation in a more enduring capacity.

OutdoorLads has provided me with a supportive community and countless memorable outdoor experiences. As a Trustee, I have been privileged to represent the members' voices, ensuring that their needs and perspectives are addressed by the Board. This role has deepened my understanding of the charity's governance and strategic goals, and I've seen firsthand the positive impact that a strong, collaborative board can have on the organisation's success.

I am passionate about OutdoorLads' mission of fostering inclusivity, community, and personal growth through outdoor activities. My experience as a Trustee has equipped me with the skills and insight needed to contribute effectively to the board's work. I bring strong strategic thinking, problem-solving abilities, and a commitment to clear, open communication – all essential qualities for a Trustee.

I am particularly interested in helping OutdoorLads navigate future challenges and opportunities. My goal is to support the charity's growth while maintaining its core values, ensuring that it continues to be a welcoming and empowering space for all members. I am committed to exploring new ways to engage with our community, attract new participants, and enhance the overall member experience.

In conclusion, I am dedicated to the success of OutdoorLads and am eager to continue serving as a Trustee. I believe my experience, skills, and passion align with the needs of the Board, and I am excited about the opportunity to contribute to the ongoing growth and impact of this remarkable charity.

Trustee for Volunteers and Leaders: Gavin Blackman (GavinB73)

Proposed by: Alex Young

Seconded by: Tim Lawes

Gavin has applied for the role of Trustee for Volunteers and Leaders, completed an application and has been interviewed for the role by Trustees. The Board recommends that the membership vote FOR Gavin to be elected to the board of trustees.



I am excited to be applying for the role of Trustee for Volunteers in Leaders in OutdoorLads, and organisation with which I have been involved for 10 years. I have over 20 years of experience with managing people, whether secondary school pupils in the classroom, or colleagues in various Geography Departments. I have also managed many new Lowland and Hill Walk leaders and the hundreds of members who have attended the near-240 day walks I have led. I am currently Walks Organiser for the south coast counties and have supported leaders to ensure a good number and distribution of day walks there.

My experience in OutdoorLads has given me a good understanding of the benefits and hindrances that come with the leader role. In addition, the middle manager positions I've had have equipped me with all the relevant skills for the Trustee role, such as translating the strategic aims of the Trustee Board into actionable tasks, managing the performance of leaders and volunteers, maintaining effective communication with them, and fostering morale among them.

I would play my part in the first collective responsibility, which is 'ensuring the team delivery of organisational purpose' by increasing the number of active leaders leading, and hence events running, as the primary way of growing membership. With more events, especially in areas currently undersupplied with them, would come greater membership and enhanced reputation. Taking a rolling interest in the work of leaders and gratefully acknowledging their contribution is paramount, but also important is reducing hindrances to leading such as members being casual about their attendance. I would ascertain why leaders don't lead and attempt to remove the barriers. I'd also try to reduce administrative tasks such as leaders getting participation statements completed. I would target geographical areas where leader activity is low and recruit new leaders or re-engage old ones in them.

This leads me to the second collective responsibility, which is 'exercising effective control of the organisation', particularly maintaining training and resources. I would steer existing and prospective leaders towards opportunities that might interest them and enhance their skills in leading, especially leaders in areas with few events.

The third collective responsibility is 'being open and accountable... and setting a culture of integrity and pride', and I would address this by not just communicating to leaders my appreciation of their work, but also seeking out their views and reasons for not leading, and informing them of training and development opportunities.

Representative Member Trustee: Will Allaway (outdoorwill)

Proposed by: Oliver Evans

Seconded by: James Brunt and Tom Prosser

Will has applied for the role of Representative Member Trustee. This is a fixed one-year term, recruited to each year at the AGM. There is no selection process for this post, which is decided upon purely on members votes.



OutdoorLads has been a huge part of my life since coming out 17 years ago and a backbone to my social and active calendar. I have spent thousands of hours participating and leading walking, cycling, climbing, social, hostel and camping events across the country.

I'm already actively involved with the Delivery Committee and am keen to be in a position to continue contributing to the organisation at a higher level. I am enamoured by the work of the current board following the stepping down of the former, and would like to see OutdoorLads continue to thrive and be the beneficial organisation it is to so many people.

I am an active member, leader of multiple activities and have been part of OutdoorLads for years. I am currently chair of the delivery subcommittee and have been an advocate of the new Cultural & Heritage events.

I'm a Project Manager during the working week which requires me to being organised and communicative. I'm a seasoned "ODLer" and familiar with its operation, charitable aims and organisation. I've previously been trustee for the Shropshire Rainbow Film Festival and was Head Programmer for 5 years.