



Malawi 2026

Following the County's very successful visit to Malawi in 2024, we are planning a smaller return visit in the early summer of 2026.

For those that did not attend the 2024 event, details can be found here:

[Malawi 2024-06 – Berkshire Scouts](#)

Further details about the Berkshire Scouts Project Africa programme can be found here:

[Project Africa . . . the journey – Berkshire Scouts](#)

Objectives for Malawi 2026:

This expedition is purposefully different in scale and scope to the full visit in 2024. The next full Project Africa expedition is likely to be in the summer of 2028.

The 2026 expedition will be small and targeted but will return to continue the community work undertaken in the Milo area during the 2024 visit.

Following input from those expressing an interest in the visit at a meeting on 7 April, it was agreed there should be two options on offer:

Unit	Objectives
Network Unit (age 18–24)	<p>Complete projects (working with Malawi Scouts and/or the Joshua charity to identify opportunities in the Milo area).</p> <p>Given the time available and the financial impact, these are likely to be refurbishment projects (eg: painting, desk repair, etc) rather than a major construction project.</p> <p>For those that wish to, an opportunity to complete the Scouts of the World Award (SOWA).</p>
Support Unit (age 25+)	<p>Provide in-country support to the Network Unit if required.</p> <p>Revisit the project sites from 2024 and visit the Solomoni and Manyowe projects that were funded by Berkshire Scouts after that visit.</p> <p>Identify and recce potential project sites and R&R opportunities for a larger return visit in 2028.</p>

Additional objectives common to both Units

Work with local Malawi Scouts to support the expansion of Scouting in the country.
Support Malawi Scouts with their preparations to attend 'WINGS26'.
Further develop relationships with our partners in Malawi.

Logistics:

Both Units will travel together but accommodation arrangements may differ. The Network Unit would be based in the Milo area (same location as the 2024 visit). The base for the support unit will be in the Blantyre area.

Eligibility:

The event is open to members of Berkshire Scouts aged 18 years and over at the time of outward travel (anyone wishing to complete their [Scouts of the World Award](#) will need to be 18 at the time of the Discovery event – likely to be autumn 2025).

Dates:

End June / early July 2026. Exact dates dependant on flight availability and pricing. 10–12 days in length.

The dates are set so that Units are back in the UK a couple of weeks before WINGS. A key objective of the visit will be to engage with the Malawi Scouts, in particular, those that we will be hosting when they come to the UK for WINGS.

Cost:

Estimate for Network Unit £1800 (subject to confirmation of air fare cost).

Estimate for Support Unit to be agreed (dependant on accommodation and itinerary options).

Costs included in the central fee (above):

Briefings, insurance; single branded polo shirt and necker, return air fares, in-country travel (for agreed journeys), accommodation and food, project costs (Project Africa Fund – to an agreed budget).

Costs not included:

Passports, vaccinations, additional personal insurance, additional branded clothing, travel to/from UK airport, increased air fares (above initial set fare), in-country 'trips' not deemed to be part of event objectives, extended stay in-country.

NB: there will be no individual County grant support available for this event.

A 'letter of introduction' confirming participation and purpose of the event will be made available on request for personal fundraising.

Timetable:

By 31 May 2025 – online applications to join the expedition close

<https://forms.office.com/e/R00wLjHkQx>

By 30 June – first stage payment paid (£300). Other stage payment dates to be confirmed.

July/August – flights booked.

September onwards – detailed planning and preparations.

Web page:

A web page has been created for [Malawi 2026](#). This page is for general information as well as storing key resources, documents, and links.