

BLACKPOOL DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

England & Wales - Charity number 521534

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1966-11-08

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 6 Ribchester Avenue
Blackpool
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Email treasurer@blackpoolscouts.org.uk

Website www.blackpoolscouts.org.uk

Activities

Objects: UNIT OF THE SCOUT ASSOCIATION.

Activities: Scouting - within Blackpool

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training, Amateur Sport
- **Who:** Children/young People

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** BLACKPOOL
- Blackpool

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£159,300	£511,507	-	-
2024-03-31	£1,024,711	£992,399	£1,114,082	0
2023-03-31	£981,005	£152,260	£1,044,492	0
2022-03-31	£76,148	£59,424	-	-
2021-03-31	£67,549	£64,383	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Christopher Michael Hardy	Chair	2023-01-26
Andrew David Inglis		2022-09-29
Elizabeth Abbott		2016-01-01
Holly Louise Brookfield		2025-07-03
JOAN SWAN		2022-07-07
Janet Hardy		2019-09-26
Joanna Hacking		2017-07-01
Lesley Meddings		2022-09-29
Matthew Philip Hornby		2022-07-07
Peter Rumley		2023-07-06
Robert John Ward		2022-09-29
Victoria Kenmare		2023-07-06

BLACKPOOL DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

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Accounts



Scouts

Blackpool



Annual report & accounts 2024-2025

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Welcome from the Chair

Welcome to Blackpool District Scouts' Annual General Meeting 2025!

Another action packed and youth lead activity filled year across all of Blackpool. Like every other year we should all be immensely proud of what we have individually and collectively achieved and delivered across Blackpool. It truly is something to be proud of the impact we are having. Sadly worldwide events over the last 12 months have made many aspects of life more challenging and in parts unstable, but this is where the values of scouting, our inclusivity, our openness for all, and our values still ensure that we are a clear beacon of light for our young people and all of our adult volunteers.

A place to call home

As many of you will be aware, we are in the fortunate position to have acquired land at the old Marton Methodist Church. Alongside this we have a preferred partner to work with to help design and build the new headquarters. This will be Joseph Boniface architects and Leeming Associates who will guide us through the process from design to completion. The real hard work now begins to ensure we build a building that will meet all of our needs, one that is future proof in its design and ensure that it is multifunctional to serve many community needs. Many of you across the district will be able to help us in this quest so that we can deliver a building that the district is rightly proud of, and that it continues to mark our footprint across Blackpool.

As I have said before, what we provide as a District is second to none, and it does not happen by accident. It is the hard work and dedication of all our volunteers involved in Scouting that allows us to continue to be the largest voluntary group across Blackpool and positively impact the lives of many young people.

A year of achievement

As we gather here today, it's the perfect time to reflect on what has been an incredible year of adventure, growth, and impact for Scouts here in Blackpool. From windswept hikes in the mountains to quiet moments

On behalf of all the Board of Trustees, thank you for your continued efforts and the support you have shown me and the wider Board. Every single person involved in Scouting in Blackpool, whether that is delivering weekly sessions or providing key support roles should reflect on your own personal year. Be proud of the achievements we have made not only in our groups, but collectively as a District.

I like many of you could not be prouder to be part of Blackpool District and the work that we do in our town and our local communities. The work that goes on across all our groups, by all of those that support Scouting, truly confirms to me that **Blackpool Scouts is the best!**

Thank you all!

Chris Hardy
Chair of the Board of Trustees

around the campfire, we've lived out the very spirit of Scouting—friendship, courage, and community.

This year, we've taken real strides in strengthening our presence in the local community. Our young people have stepped forward as leaders, helpers, and change makers. Whether through beach clean-ups, fundraising, or lending a hand to those in need, our young people are showing they're not just the future—they're already making a difference right now.

It's been brilliant to see the expansion of our youngest section too, with new Squirrel Dreys opening across the District—and even more in the pipeline. It's inspiring to see children as young as four beginning their Scouting journey, already developing the values, confidence, and curiosity that will carry them forward.

I'm proud to say that this year marks our **fourth consecutive year of growth** here in the District. That's growth in both our young people and our adult volunteers. It's a sign of a thriving movement—but with that growth comes a responsibility. To continue supporting our existing groups and to open new ones, we need even more adults to step forward. People who are willing to share their skills, time, and passion to help bring the benefits of Scouting to more young people. People just like you!

Because what we're doing works. **Our young people are achieving their top awards** and striving every day to be the very best version of themselves. They are developing skills for life—resilience, teamwork, leadership—and they are doing it because of the safe, supportive, and inspiring environments that you, our volunteers, help to create.

We are proud to be the **largest volunteer-led youth organisation in Blackpool**, and we wear that badge with pride. To each and every one of our volunteers: thank you. Your commitment, your time, and your belief in what young people can achieve truly matters. You are making a real and lasting difference every day.

And as we look to the future, there is so much to be excited about. More adventures, more opportunities, and more young people discovering what they're capable of.

I'd like to thank the support of all our ambassadors but the increased support from Jordan Wylie MBE for all that we do in Blackpool. Having someone like Jordan in our corner and championing what we do is great and he's an inspiration to young people and adults alike.

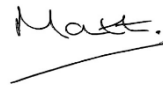
The future is bright and together; we'll keep moving forward.

Thank you all for being a part of this journey.

Let's keep going, keep growing, and keep believing in the power of what we do!

Thank you.

Best wishes,



Matt Hornby
District Lead Volunteer

Our vision

By **2025** we will have prepared more young people with skills for life, supported by amazing leaders delivering an inspiring programme. We will be growing, more inclusive, shaped by young people and making a bigger impact in our communities.

Our goals

We will achieve the following goals against our four objectives:

Growth

Inclusivity

- Grow to 900 young people
- Increase adult volunteers to 400
- More young leaders, 2 per section
- Fewer sections with less than 12 members
- All Groups with at least 3 sections

Youth Shaped

- 100% of young people shaping their Scouting experience
- 50% of young people achieving their top awards

- Our members reflect the demographics of our local area
- Stronger groups within areas of deprivation within the town
- Increase our members from underrepresented communities

Community Impact

- Young people making a positive difference in their local community
- Develop a community impact week

Our pillars of work

To meet these objectives, we will focus on four pillars of work:

Programme

A fun, enjoyable, high-quality programme consistently delivered and supported by simple (digital) tools.

People

More, well trained, better supported and motivated adult volunteers, and more young people from diverse backgrounds.

Perception

Scouting is understood, more visible, trusted, respected and widely seen as playing a key role in society today.

Places

Good quality, practical locations are available to support our scouting programme across Blackpool.

Shaped by young people

Youth Shaped Scouting continues to be a big part of our programme in Blackpool Scouts.

It has been brilliant to see lots of Squirrels- Explorers continuing to earn their 'YouShape' award across the district. By starting with their 'goal' and then continuing to 'plan', 'lead', and 'represent' with their own section,

our young people truly are shaping their own experiences.

It has been great to see our young people not only inputting into their weekly meetings but also getting involved with what other activities they would like to do. This has included things such as going on particular walks, planning what to do on their camps/ sleepovers and even some external visits that they would like. Some groups and sections have let their young people completely take the lead and run entire activities and evenings, which has then in turn sparked more programme ideas brought around by the young people.

Our District sections have also been proactive with their youth shaped programme. A great example was the

District Warhammer day organised by the District Scout team after a group of scouts had expressed an interest in an event around this hobby. Our Network members also continue to run a programme based off what their members would like to do and collaborate especially well on this.

We have seen many linking events between sections this year, for example, the Squirrels and Beavers have joined together for a District Founder's Day and County Adventure Day. We have also seen linking events between the Scouts and Explorer sections with events such as sandcastle competitions, Remembrance Sunday and Scout Car Races.

I am pleased to be passing over the Youth Lead role to Holly Brookfield who (alongside Jake Robinson on her team) has many ideas of how we can continue to work on our Youth Shaped programme within our groups and the District. Holly is very enthusiastic about making sure that our young people get the best out of their Scouting journeys and I know that you will all continue to give your support to her and her team. I'd like to take this opportunity to wish her all the best in the role!

Gabby Howson-Tax
Youth Lead Volunteer
District Leadership Team





Squirrels

3 years of Squirrels in Blackpool and the section is continuing to grow and stay adventurous! We now have 8 Dreys in the District and more groups that are starting their journey to opening their own Squirrel Drey!

In January, we saw some Squirrels performing in Blackpool Gang Show and what a great job they did! Whilst there weren't too many Squirrels on the stage this year there was certainly many Squirrels singing and dancing along in the audience! We can't wait to see more of them performing in next year's Gang Show!

In February, Squirrels joined with the District Beaver section to celebrate Founder's Day. We had lots of fun making birthday cards, hats and biscuits as well as practicing on our teamwork skills. It was great to see so many Squirrels and Beavers together celebrating Baden Powell's birthday, and we even learnt how to sign the 'Happy Birthday' song.

In February and March, Squirrels took part in some balance bike sessions at Palatine Leisure Centre. The Squirrels practiced balancing on their bikes, took part in some races and even played some games like 'what time is it Mr Wolf?' all on their bikes. The Squirrels were very enthusiastic and truly grew in confidence on their bikes by the end of the session.

Also in March, we held our 2nd annual Squirrels Sleepover, this time Space themed! 33 Squirrels from across 5 Dreys came together to become astronauts in training and had lots of fun completing their space explorer activity badge. We investigated the cycle of the moon using Oreos, created our own constellations and UFOs and even went on an alien hunt around the area! It was also great to see some Squirrels from 7th Blackpool on their first outdoor group camp back in October!

April once again brought around St. George's Day and our District 'Picnic in the park'.

It was brilliant to see even more Squirrels in their red jumpers navigating their way around the park before coming together to renew our Squirrel Scout promise.

In May, 31 Squirrels joined County Squirrels and Beavers at the SQuAD day at Waddecar. Here we completed the Earth Tribe badge by learning all about nature and thinking about what we can do together or independently to make a difference around us. We completed some activities such as nature colour

matching, making animal footprints (and poo!), creating wind catchers, bird and butterfly feeders and so much more! We also took part in some adventurous activities such as bouldering, low ropes, soft archery and axe throwing! Later in May, lots of Squirrel Dreys also took part in the BOTT walk along the promenade. Thank you to the Cub section for organising this.

In June, Squirrels took part in 2 District events: a sports fun day and a district adventure day at Mowbreck. The sports fun day was a great opportunity for Squirrels to come together to have some fun, which we did through sack races, hula hoop challenges and some traditional races. Squirrels had lots of fun at the adventure day trying out real archery and angel blade throwing, as well as cooking on fires and getting stuck in with nature!

As well as weekend events, Dreys have also been putting on some brilliant weekly programmes. We have seen visits to Pets at Home, the fire station, the beach, the circus and so much more. We have also had programmes on Chinese New Year, making bird nests, exploring our senses, conducting experiments and so on! These brilliant programmes have meant that lots more Chief Scouts Acorn awards have been presented, and it's been great to see these Squirrels continuing their adventures in Beavers!

A big thank you to everyone who has supported the Squirrel section over the past year with all our activities. Whilst there's too many to name, we certainly couldn't have put on these events without your help! A special thank you must also be given to the rest of my team, Heather Smith and Zoe Derbyshire. Whilst they've only officially joined the Squirrel Team recently, their support over the last 12 months has been unwavering.

Here's to another year of adventures and growing the Squirrel section in Blackpool!

Gabby Howson-Tax
Squirrel Programme Team Leader





We begin as we always do, thinking about how it has been another busy 12 months for our Beaver Scouts across the District.

It has been fantastic to see all the exciting adventures our Beaver Colonies have been getting up to over the past 12 months.

I am going to take us back to last June for our 'Great Outdoor Sleepover' at Mowbreck – we quite literally saw every kind of weather in 24 hours....and I very nearly had to send everyone home. However Beaver Scouts are made of strong stuff, and we had plenty of adventure with slacklines, archery, soft tomahawks, campfire and catapults as well as fun exploring and enjoying being in nature! The team were delighted to donate the left-over food as part 'Big Help Out' to local food bank charities local to Blackpool.

Following on from the Colony Programme Surveys we held a 'Volunteers and Ideas' morning to allow you to come together and share ideas and tools to make programme planning a little easier with the added opportunity to take some resources from our District Store.

In the Autumn Term, it was fantastic to host two nights for Beavers to earn the Musician Badge. It was great to see different colonies taking part and huge thank you to our guest Musicians for giving up their time to teach our young people new skills. We also have some of our own budding musicians of the future.

December brought the opportunity to think of those less fortunate than us as we collected or all the generous food donations that we were able to give to local charities in need. Thank you for your kindness as ever.

A slight change for the New Year as back in January, it was a delight to see the many Beaver Scouts who were performing on The Grand Theatre in Blackpool Gang Show – we were so very proud to see so many of you on the stage! I am of course slightly biased but singing, bus drivers, cyclists traffic lights, and traffic cones can't help but make you smile!

In the new year we launched our Challenge Countdown with a scrapbook and points to earn over the year to show all the incredible things you have been up too and try and think outside of the box a little bit with your programmes. We look forward to seeing them in December.

As our Squirrel dreys and numbers grow it only seemed right to join to celebrate Founders Day together. The

Makaton signing of well over 100 young people to Happy Birthday Baden Powell was the perfect end to a 'smooth, calm, lots of activity choice' (your feedback) afternoon. Back in April so many of you joined Blackpool District at St George's Day Picnic in the park, the sun shone all afternoon which makes a change! I saw lots of ice cream being eaten that day too. We enjoyed a treasure hunt around the park, as well as games and flag making before renewing our Beaver Scout Promise at the Bandstand. Two coaches and lots of cars from Blackpool full of Squirrels and Beavers attended the County joint Squirrel and Beaver Event – 'SQuad Adventure Day' at Waddecar Scout Campsite. The sun was defiantly shining – not a waterproof in sight. Another jam-packed fun day that involved bouldering, archery, a challenge course, bug hotels, orienteering, bird feeders, nature hunts and poo making!

So glad the sunshine stayed for you all to complete your BOTT walks this year. A thanks as ever to the Cub Team for organising this event for everyone.

2025 has also brought colony visits and sleepovers, visitors to colonies, and badge earning nights. I have been delighted to see and hear the badge work you have been focussing on over the past 12 months..... according to Nic's records our young people have earned approximately 1243 badges! Wow! Adventure challenge, Animal friend, Money skills, Outdoor challenge, Builder, Communicator, Personal challenge, Camp craft, Experiment, World challenge, Collector, Health & fitness, Skills challenge, Cyclist, Cook, Teamwork challenge, Sports, Space, Disability awareness, Creative, Book reader, Faith, Safety, Gardener, You shape, Explore, Hobbies, Swimmer, Nights away, Photographer, Emergency aid, Hikes away, International, Navigator, Musician, Global issues, Paddle sports, Time on water - to name a few!

I have been so fortunate to visit our colonies and proudly congratulate many Beaver Scouts on achieving the Chief Scout Bronze Award, the highest award you can earn as a Beaver. This also meant we had to say goodbye to lots of young people who moved onto Cubs, and we can't wait to see you in all in the next stage of your Scouting journey.

For all the above to take place a great deal of planning, commitment, enthusiasm, and time is required. Our young people are fortunate to have such amazing leaders and supporters. I am also reliant on such a supportive Leadership Team. A special thank you must go to Sarah, Ann, Irene and Annastasia. I would also like to thank the wider District Team who we are fortunate to have as support at our events, as well as without you simply none of this would be possible.

Finally, as I come to the end of my time as Blackpool Programme Lead for Beavers, I would like to express my thanks to each and every one of you for your time and support. It has been a pleasure to work alongside such a dedicated team of volunteers and friends in this role. I know you will give the next lead the same support. I have enjoyed my time over the last four years, and I look forward to what the future holds for the Beaver Section.

Emma Hornby

Beaver Programme Team Leader





Once again, I have the pleasure of reviewing the last year for Cub Scouts in Blackpool. The Cubs are fortunate to have brilliant volunteers in the packs who put on activities, events and camps for them to enjoy. In addition to pack activities, below is a brief outline of what we have achieved as a district section this past year.

The 2023/2024 Cub Scout calendar ended with our annual trip to Blackpool Zoo. Cubs and volunteers enjoyed playing Zoo-opoly, racing around to visit all the locations on the game board. September 2024 started off the new Scouting year with the return of a popular event from last year - 'Race to Silver' held at our District Campsite. Shaped by our volunteers, it allowed Cub Scouts to attend and complete some vital badge work necessary for gaining their Chief Scout Silver award.

In October, to support Blackpool Young Leaders attending the West Lancs trip to Malawi, 2 badge nights based on the Global Issues badge were provided. Planned and resourced by the Young Leaders themselves, the nights were hugely successful. Proceeds from the evening were donated to each of the Young Leaders to support the fantastic work they will be doing in summer 2025. Volunteers in the section requested another night 'under the sea' sleeping at the Sealife Centre in November to give a unique experience and a valuable night away! In February, 90 Cubs visited the Liverpool World Museum for a day out to celebrate Founders Day, enjoying the exhibitions in the museum.

To celebrate our members achieving the highest award in Cub Scouts, we returned to the Town Hall so that the successful Cubs could have their awards officially presented by the Mayor watched by family and the leaders who had supported their journey. We are proud of the 54 members that earned this award and the effort that goes into it.

A new edition to the programme in March was a visit to Hanger 42 in Blackpool. Cubs from 6 packs earned their stage 2 Air Activities badge, having the opportunity to look at a Spitfire and learn all about different aircraft.

With over 500 members taking part, BOTT (Blackpool On The Trial) 2025 took place in May, encouraging volunteers to get members out and about, particularly in the south area of Blackpool. The final part of the badge will be coming in 2026!

Throughout the year, a team of volunteers have been getting to know a group of 22 Cub Scouts, ready to take them to London in August 2025. With a 'King' theme, getting to know you events included a private hire of the Backlot cinema to see Mufusa, a London themed challenge and a walk in the local area. Many exciting activities are planned for the trip including seeing the Lion King at the theatre and visiting the Tower of London. We look forward to sharing the trip with you all!

My thanks go, as always, to our volunteers who provide the excellent opportunities for our Cub Scouts every week. I am incredibly grateful to my team who make our District Cub activities possible. Plans are already underway for September 2025 onwards and I'm looking forward to sharing the activities with our members.

Stephen Chow

Cub Programme Team Leader



SCOUTS

What a whirlwind of a year it's been for our Scout section!

From muddy boots to sandy hands and everything in between, it's been a non-stop adventure. From the first campfire of the season to our final badge ceremony, our Scouts have embodied the values of teamwork, resilience, and leadership. Rain or shine, they've tackled every challenge with courage—and had a ton of fun along the way!

Our Scouts have filled this year with laughter, learning, and bold adventure, all powered by the unstoppable spirit that made this Scouting year truly unforgettable.

Packed with Adventure

This year saw our Scouts head out on numerous camps, and each one brought something special—whether it was learning to cook over open flames, perfecting our tent pitching (in the rain, of course!), or tackling creative team challenges. We've truly made the outdoors our second home!

Sand, Shooting & Shouting (with excitement!)

A stand-out moment was sandcastle building at the beach, where Scouts showed off their creativity, teamwork, and a few competitive streaks—while soaking up some well-earned sunshine.

Then came the thrill of Take Aim, where Scouts tried their hand at various shooting activities in a safe, supportive environment. Confidence soared alongside the pellets, and many found a new favourite pastime!

County Rally Magic

The County Rally brought Scouts from across the county together, and ours certainly made their mark! From wild activities to new friendships, it was a jam-packed weekend of fun and adventure. Our Scouts did us proud with their energy, enthusiasm, and brilliant behaviour.

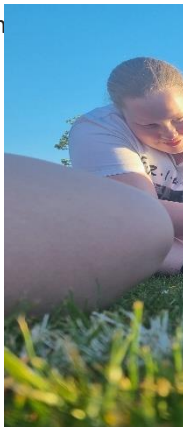
Badges Galore

This year, our Scouts worked hard to earn a wide range of badges, including outdoor skills, teamwork, and challenge awards.

Every badge represents a milestone of growth, courage, and curiosity—and we couldn't be prouder.

Fun for the Grown-Ups too!

#SkillsForLife





EXPLORERS

This past year has seen the joining together of the Explorer & Network sections to create the 14-24 section. This new section is to focus on providing a dynamic programme for our older youth members, encouraging leadership skills and offering exciting opportunities. Both sections still run independently of each other but with focus on linking where it is appropriate to do so.

We have joined together for our yearly Winter camp at Scout Adventures Great Tower and had some fun at laser tag, St Georges Day in the park, Halloween scare fest at Mowbreck and Network have run their Monopoly run for one of the units.

The team for both sections desperately needs to grow in order to support the provision of a dynamic programme, which will be my focus over the next year.

Blackpool Network have a newly appointed Chair, Rachel McMurdo, who leads the programme organization for their regular meets of every other week. She is currently working on the Three Peaks Challenge and hopes to have completed it by the time this report is read!

Rachel has kindly overviewed the past year for Network:

This year, Network have been doing lots of different activities from ice skating, walking the illuminations, running our own monopoly run, celebrating pancake night, movie and games nights and having a backwards cooking night. Several members have also attended the West Lancs Reconnected & Network Gathering camps. As a section we have started to do more link events with the Explorers, along with supporting District and County events such as Gang Show, the St. Georges Day ball, the Squirrels & Beavers founders Day and Earth Tribe Day. We have multiple members working on their top awards. Polly-Ann has completed her Gold DofE residential & Adam has attended his presentation of his Gold DofE at the palace! We have also had Imogen parading at Windsor Castle on St Georges Day with Monica as part of the Colour Party.

I am looking forward to supporting the development of the Network programme over the coming year.

In the Explorer section we have been busy taking part in the County run Mountain Activity Challenge, running the Scout link event Who Dares wins, Winter Camp where we had a day on the hill and half a day at laser tag. One of our leaders said that capturing the flag during laser tag was one of the proudest moments of his life!

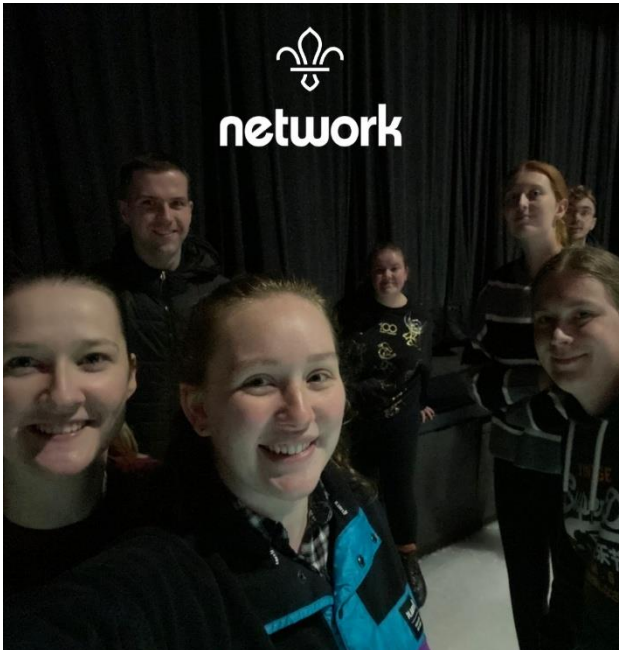
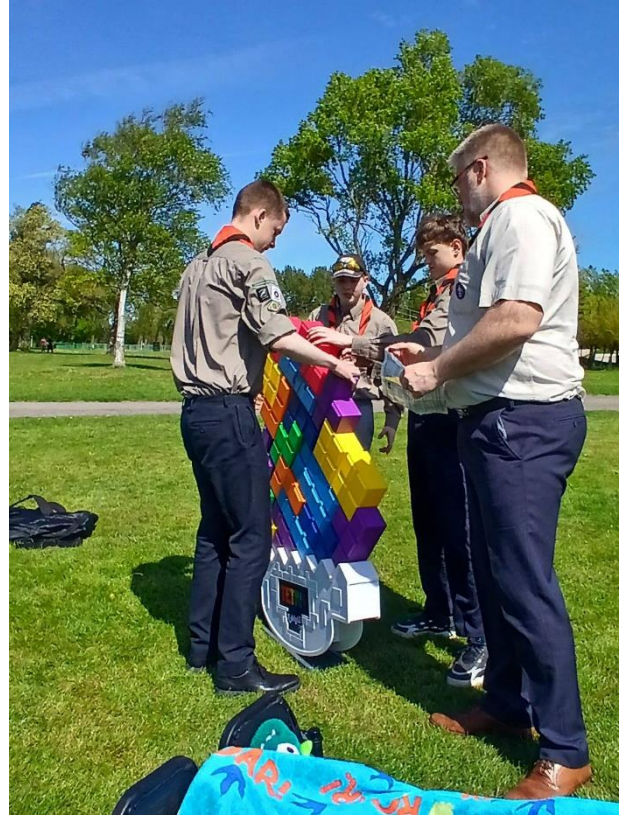
As leaders we must also have fun 😊 Summer camp in Cornwall, saw us surfing, biking, coasteering and of course having a cream tea or two!

Unit nights continue to be Youth led with a variety of activities including sign language, life skills, VE Day celebrations, backwoods cooking, tarping, international nights, cycle nights, environmental awareness, frisbee golf, outdoor climbing and water activities.

I would like to thank my team for their continued support and hard work to deliver a varied but challenging programmes.

Joanna Hacking
14-24 Team Leader

network





Mowbreck Scout Campsite

Mowbreck has gone from strength to strength over this last season, with groups from all over the county coming and staying.

We have also opened the site up to a couple of schools and home education groups.

Mowbreck is in the middle of improving the campfire area as well as several other site developments in the pipeline.

We held 2 site working days throughout the season where volunteers got to work pruning trees, laying wood chip and painting of the toilets and containers to name a few. Several groups also lent a hand during their stay and completed some site service which is always massively appreciated.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our meet and greet team, activity instructors and everyone else who has either helped or visited the site over the past 12 months as without them we wouldn't have a campsite.

Here's to another successful year where we continue to grow and develop!

Andy and Stephen

Mowbreck Campsite Managers





Blackpool Gang Show

2025 was a year of exciting change for Blackpool Gang Show. We welcomed a new leadership team, with Jordan Shuck as Director and Tor Kenmare as Business Manager, supported by a refreshed production and business team bringing new ideas and innovation.

The show moved from its traditional Autumn slot to January—a challenging but necessary decision, as The Grand Theatre prioritised higher-grossing productions during peak season. Despite initial concerns about staging a show in the depths of winter, the change proved successful. Encouragingly, ticket sales rose by 12% compared to the previous year.

We were thrilled to welcome an expanded live band under the direction of Musical Director, Steve Townsend. It was especially inspiring to see three young musicians Millie (drums), Charlotte (bass), and Isaac (guitar) leading the way. Their energy and talent significantly enhanced the musicality and atmosphere of both rehearsals and performances. We're delighted they'll be returning next year.



Under Jordan's direction, the show format changed, adopted a new theme, "Around the World" which brought cohesion and flow to the performance. Yet, it retained the classic Gang Show spirit. Highlights included:

- Junior Gang's lively trip to Ibiza aboard the Gang Show bus
- The rhythmic drums of Africa in the Serengeti
- Dazzling Bollywood dance numbers
- A vibrant show at the Copacabana
- complete with a rogue pantomime camel causing a stir among the stalls.

Special thanks to Lesley Meddings and the wardrobe team, who not only styled the show beautifully but also sourced an incredible 50 penguin costumes, an idea that seemed impossible when first proposed at the production meeting.

At the end of this year's show, we saw several longstanding Gang Show contributors hand over the reins.

Kevan Benfold has stepped down as Backstage Manager after over 50 years supporting the show.

Paul "Tots" Towers also stepped down from backstage after many years crafting backstage.

Mark Stubbs has kindly taken on the backstage and props lead.

Emma Hornby & Shanice Griffiths have handed over the Junior Gang to a new team.

Subsequently, Phil and Irene Wheatley have taken the decision to step back from the front of house team after over 40 years supporting the show in various roles.

We'd like to express our sincere thanks to each and everyone of them for all their dedication over the years.



So, as we move on to the 2026 show I have confidence that we will continue to embrace new changes and improvements and go from strength to strength. We are continuing to focus on the youth in our cast and welcome Darcy, Em, Erin and Lucy to the production team as young producers.

Make sure you have put week beginning 19th January 2026 in your diaries!

Tor Kenmare

Gang Show Business Manager





Our finances

Receipts and Payments account

For the year ending 31st March 2025

	2024-2025	2023-2024
<u>Receipts</u>	£	£
Badge Receipts	5818	7261
Carol Service	0	40
Christine Fitton Legacy	10000	0
Dinner Dance	2557	8747
Donations	1349	622
Fundraising	251	0
Gift Aid District	885	0
Gift Aid Gang Show	535	0
Gift Aid Mowbreck	2625	0
Greathead (DC)	1000	500
HQ Charity Account	0	27040
Interest and dividends received	1396	7457
International	100	0
Just Giving (HQ)	194	0
Membership fees	34110	30948
Miscellaneous	3143	80
Network Neckers	0	43
Recruitment/Media	72	30
Squirrels	1774	0
Swimming Gala	0	80
14-24	452	86
44th Blackpool	35	1217
	66612	84150
<u>Section Income</u>		
Beaver Scouts	4597	4998
Cub Scouts	15315	11284
Explorer Scouts	13647	10935
Gang Show	20796	21252
Mowbreck Campsite	10063	16405
Paul Marshall Legacy	16209	865816
SASU	130	1110
Scout Car Races	2179	0
Scouts	9755	8762
Total Receipts	92688	940561
	159300	1024711
<u>Section Costs</u>		
Beaver Scouts	4415	3955
Cub Scouts	11648	11964

	2024-2025	2023-2024
Payments	£	£
AGM/DC Retirement	504	678
Badges	5231	6614
Carol Service	0	109
Dinner Dance	3416	6956
District Expenses	1858	6605
Fundraising	30	0
Gift Aid Gang Show	535	0
Gift Aid Mowbreck	2625	0
Greathead (DC)	280	510
Insurances	674	636
International	3112	2717
Jamboree	0	1120
Membership Fees	39424	30710
Miscellaneous	4360	765
Paul Marshall Legacy	0	8591
Recruitment/Media	2034	1153
St George's Day	440	143
Squirrels	1212	0
Swimming Gala	0	638
Training	972	1134
Virgin		
Young Leader Training	0	219
44th Blackpool	574	964
	67392	920772
Explorer Scouts	13340	10554
Gang Show	17759	17241
Mowbreck Campsite	6284	19722
Paul Marshall Legacy	379848	0
SASU	660	1938
Scout Car Races	1991	0
Scouts	8170	7020
	444115	723393
Total Payments	511507	993165
Net Surplus/(Deficit)for the year	-352207	31546

	<u>2024-2025</u>		<u>2023-2024</u>	
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
<u>Assets</u>				
Monetary balances (cash and bank)		632412		984619
<u>Investment assets</u>				
Rayner funds: 668.6 units in the Charities Office Investment Fund at Valuation	13025		13661	
		13025		13661
		645437		998280
<u>Non-monetary assets</u>				
District equipment	20950		20950	
District HQ	375000		0	
Mowbreck buildings (revaluation 2024)	37500		37500	
Mowbreck equipment (revaluation 2024)	22725		22500	
Stock of badges	5751		5106	
		461926		86056
		1107362		1084336
		1107362		1084336
<u>Represented by</u>				
Reserves brought forward		1084336		1048874
Net surplus/(deficit) for the year		-352207		31546
Increase/(reduction) in value of investment funds		-637		1089
Increase/(reduction) in value of non-monetary assets		375869		2126
Revaluation of asset (Mowbreck Building/Equipment)		0		-30000
Less increase/(reduction) in liabilities		0		-701
<u>Reserves carried forward</u>		1107362		1084336

Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of the Blackpool District Scout Council

I report on the accounts of the district for the year ending 31st March 2025 which are set out on pages 1 to 3

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The districts trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- 1 examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 act
- 2 to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 act; and
- 3 to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiners report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the District and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiners statement

In connection with my examination, no other matter has come to my attention:

- a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material aspect the requirement to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 act have not been met; or
- b) which in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent Examiner Name: MELANIE BONNEY.

Signed:



Date:

17/6/25.

Notes to the accounts

For the year ending 31st March 2025 – Note 1

	2024-2025	2023-2024
Exec accounts	£	£
Caf bank current account	4524	3595
Caf bank gold account	55564	53676
Virgin account	194	110
	60282	57381
Section Accounts		
Beavers	2315	2133
Beer Festival	5059	5059
Cubs	6963	3555
Explorers	2212	2611
Gang Show	19933	16971
Mowbreck	31390	27611
Paul Marshall Legacy	502177	865816
SASU	0	626
Scout Car Races	497	310
Scouts	1585	2117
Service Team	0	429
	572130	927238
Total	632412	984619

Notes to the accounts

For the year ending 31st March 2025 – Note 2

	2024-2025	2023-2024
Total Reserves	1107362	1084336
less:		
Non monetary assets+ loans and liabilities	461926	86056
<u>Restricted Funds</u>		
Rayner Bequest	0	997
Rayner Investment Fund	13025	13661
C Fitton Bequest	8900	0
44th Blackpool	29	253
Butterworth Bequest	10625	12113
<u>Designated Funds</u>		
Beer Festival	5059	5059
District Camp	4000	3000
Explorers	2611	2611
Gang Show	19933	16971
Greathead Fund	720	0
International	10	672
Jamboree	2750	1500
Membership Fees	40000	30000
Mowbreck	31390	27611
Paul Marshall Legacy	502177	865816
Recruitment/Media	0	500
SASU	0	626
Scout Car Races	487	310
Service Team	0	429
Virgin (HQ)	194	0
Young Leader Training	0	281
Youth Lead	0	200
Free Reserves	3527	15670

Reserves Policy

The District mainly raises its running costs from its members and has limited capacity for other fund raising, therefore the trustees exercise a prudent approach to their free reserves policy: the trustees will initiate additional fund raising when free reserves fall to below the equivalent of nine months annual costs measured against the latest Trustee Income and Expenditure account or the forward budget plan.

Donations

We gratefully acknowledge the following generous contributors to our fund raising this year:
Peter Greathead, Ian Gledhill.

We also continue to benefit from the legacies of Mrs Patricia Butterworth, F G Rayner
Paul Marshall, Michael Loomes and Mrs Christine Fitton

Our membership

Census results for the year ending 31 January 2025

	Male	Female	Self-identify	Prefer not to say	Total
Youth membership					
Squirrel Scouts	64	27	0	0	91
Beaver Scouts	144	64	0	0	208
Cub Scouts	151	72	0	0	223
Scouts	116	62	0	1	178
Explorer Scouts (including Young Leaders)	26	35	0	2	63
Network members	4	14	1	3	22
	505	274	1	5	785

Adult membership (listing the main role category for each adult volunteer)

Leadership	82	97	0	0	179
Management	8	10	0	0	18
Governance roles	20	15	0	0	35
Support roles	23	15	0	0	38
	146	145	0	0	291
Total membership	651	419	1	0	1076

*Young Leader totals are not included in the overall totals as they are already included in Explorer Scout totals.

Our District comprises

Census results for the year ending 31 January 2025

Squirrel Scout Dreys	7
Beaver Scout Colonies	16
Cub Scout Packs	17
Scout Troops	16
Explorer Scout Units (including YL Units)	4
Young Leader Units	1
Groups	17
Sections	61

Our board of trustees

Governance structure and executive committee membership - 31 March 2024 to 1 April 2025

Ex-Officio

District Lead Volunteer
District Youth Lead*

Matt Hornby
Gabrielle Howson-Tax

Appointed

District Chair
District Secretary
District Treasurer

Chris Hardy
Elizabeth Abbott
Janet Hardy

Trustee
Trustee
Trustee
Trustee
Trustee
Trustee
Trustee

Joan Swan
Lesley Meddings
Andy Inglis
Robert Ward
Peter Rumley
Tor Kenmare
Joanna Hacking

*Until July 2025

Our Scout ambassadors & Supporters

Our incredible team of ambassadors. They have one thing in common: to share far and wide how Scouts is helping young people gain skills for life.

- **Steve Royle**, Actor, Comedian & Radio Presenter
- **Hayley Kay**, Radio Presenter
- **Ged Mills**, Radio Presenter
- **Gordon Marsden**, Former Member of Parliament for Blackpool South
- **Special thanks to Jordan Wylie MBE for his increased support for all that we do.**

Roll of honour

Congratulations to all who have been honoured with awards. It's a privilege to present awards to our volunteers. Our congratulations to all recognised in the St. George's Day awards for their contribution, dedication and loyalty to Scouting in Blackpool.

2024

Simon Hacking - Award for Merit

Awarded for outstanding service. Keen, conscientious, imaginative and dedicated service

Susan Walker - Award for Merit

Awarded for outstanding service. Keen, conscientious, imaginative and dedicated service

Peter Greathead - Award for Merit

Awarded for outstanding service. Keen, conscientious, imaginative and dedicated service

Victoria Kenmare - Award for Merit

Awarded for outstanding service. Keen, conscientious, imaginative and dedicated service

David Pope - Award for Merit

Awarded for outstanding service. Keen, conscientious, imaginative and dedicated service

Patricia Craig - Award for Merit

Awarded for outstanding service. Keen, conscientious, imaginative and dedicated service

2025

Stephen Chow - Award for Merit

Awarded for outstanding service. Keen, conscientious, imaginative and dedicated service

Andy Inglis - Award for Merit

Awarded for outstanding service. Keen, conscientious, imaginative and dedicated service

Diane Parkinson - Bar to the Award for Merit.

Awarded after at least five years of further outstanding service after receiving the Award for Merit.

Gone home

Some of our members have gone home this year and we say goodbye to these much-loved members and supporters.

- Joyce Deamer
- Jack Lomas

Our thanks

Blackpool Scouts would like to thank all its volunteers and supporters for their commitment and contributions over the last year.

We look forward to another year of making a positive contribution and impact on society.



#SkillsForLife



Scouts
Blackpool

www.blackpoolscouts.org.uk

Registered Charity in England & Wales 521534

BLACKPOOL DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

England & Wales - Charity number 521534

Accounts



Scouts

Blackpool



Annual report and accounts 2023-2024

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Welcome from the Chair

Welcome to Blackpool District Scouts' Annual General Meeting 2024!

Another busy year and another year of delivering outstanding Scouting across Blackpool. We all should be immensely proud of what we are achieving, particularly as some of our young people and families will be impacted by the wider cost of living crisis. Whilst for some this will make access to Scouting harder, I know all of us would agree that it is times like these when Scouting will come together, reflect our core values and work tirelessly to ensure we are accessible for all.

Transforming futures

Transformation will be key this year with many changes already present in the District and more to come around our structure, governance and accountability. We all accept how any change can and does cause worry, apprehension and sometimes frustration, but I am confident the work of the Board of Trustees and all of us within Blackpool District will ensure that the transformation required is successful and improves the service we deliver to our young people involved in Scouting.

A place to call home

The development of the new headquarters will be a huge focus of 2024 going forward and hopefully in the near future we will be able to announce the ownership of the old Marton Methodist Church site so that we can start to develop a place for Blackpool Scouts to call our new home. Alongside this we will ensure a fitting memorial for Paul Marshall and his exceptionally kind bequest of his property to fund this venture. Our job as a District is to ensure that we deliver is the best HQ that we can so that we can continue to support and develop Scouting across Blackpool, and I am more than confident that we will achieve this.

As I have said before, what we provide as a District is second to none, and it does not happen by accident; it is the hard work and dedication of all our volunteers involved in Scouting that allows us to continue to be the largest voluntary group across Blackpool and positively impact the lives of many young people. On behalf of all of the Board of Trustees, thank you for your continued efforts and the support you have shown myself and the wider Board of Trustees.

The work that goes on across all of the groups, by all of those that support Scouting, truly confirms to me that **Blackpool Scouts is the best!**

Thank you all!

Chris Hardy

Chair of the Board of Trustees

A year of achievement

As we look back on the last year of Scouting in the District and read the contents of this annual report. It is perfectly clear to see that we are going from strength to strength.

For me, 2023 was always going to be a year of stability and finding our feet. With changes that we had begun to implement. In many ways this got us ahead of the curve in preparation for transformation.

I am really pleased that our stakeholder engagement has increased, and we are getting noticed in our town! Our attendance at local events and colleges is vital to support the pillar of work in our strategy around this. My thanks to all those who have made this happen.

With people positively talking about the work that we do in our communities this I know will lead to growth. Now we have solid foundations, this enables us to make 2024 a year for development. This includes work that has already been done with finding a place to call home in our District Headquarters.

It has been great to see more Squirrel Dreys open as well as others taking the leap to get ready for them too! Seeing the development at Mowbreck is brilliant and ensures that our resource is enjoyed by many more young people.

My thanks must go to each and every one of you for all that you do. I know that at times things are a challenge but together we will always find a way to overcome and continue the journey!

Matt Hornby

Lead Volunteer
District Leadership Team

As I reflect on 12 months of Scouting in Blackpool and present this annual report on behalf of the District Leadership Team, I am immensely proud of what we have achieved and how we have challenged ourselves.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank Matt Hornby for his leadership as our lead volunteer during the year and for the direction and course he started us on in our transformation journey. As we move forward it is these foundations which we will build on during the next twelve months.

Change comes with Challenge and in the past twelve months we have changed how we structure our meetings and our governance; we have challenged our programme that we deliver and worked towards changing our district structure in readiness for transformation.

This year we saw our third year of growth and we now have over 1075 members. Our ambition to increase our youth and adult membership is challenging but with good programmes and activity opportunities we know it will continue to be successful.

Squirrel Dreys continue to open, with our most recent at the 8th Blackpool. Our move towards Squirrels in all groups increases the opportunity to strengthen our numbers and tap into a new pool of adults who we can encourage to join us. We currently have three more Squirrel Dreys in the plan for opening in 2024/2025.

Our Group and District programmes have been stronger than ever with some amazing opportunities for young people to take part in. Programme in all sections must continue to develop and whether it is a Group night, a District section event, or a night away activity we can inspire young people and help them develop more #SkillsForLife.

Safety has also been top of our agenda in the past twelve months and our local focus on safety training compliance and risk assessment continues to ensure that we deliver safe scouting every week.

I would like to thank all our volunteers, especially our Groups, District teams, Trustees & Supporters for another great year of Scouting in Blackpool.

Paul Harris

Interim Lead Volunteer
District Leadership Team

Our vision

By **2025** we will have prepared more young people with skills for life, supported by amazing leaders delivering an inspiring programme. We will be growing, more inclusive, shaped by young people and making a bigger impact in our communities.

Our goals

We will achieve the following goals against our four objectives:

Growth

- Grow to 900 young people
- Increase adult volunteers to 400
- More young leaders, 2 per section
- Fewer sections with less than 12 members
- All Groups with at least 3 sections

Inclusivity

- Our members reflect the demographics of our local area
- Stronger groups within areas of deprivation within the town
- Increase our members from underrepresented communities

Youth Shaped

- 100% of young people shaping their Scouting experience
- 50% of young people achieving their top awards

Community Impact

- Young people making a positive difference in their local community
- Develop a community impact week

Our pillars of work

To meet these objectives, we will focus on four pillars of work:

Programme

A fun, enjoyable, high-quality programme consistently delivered and supported by simple (digital) tools.

People

More, well trained, better supported and motivated adult volunteers, and more young people from diverse backgrounds.

Perception

Scouting is understood, more visible, trusted, respected and widely seen as playing a key role in society today.

Places

Good quality, practical locations are available to support our scouting programme across Blackpool.

Shaped by young people

Once again, Blackpool Scouts are doing well in supporting a Youth Shaped Programme within all of our sections.

When visiting groups, it is clear that most of our young people in every section are given the chance to input into their own programme- whether this being within their section evening meeting night or in activities that happen away from the group at the weekend.

Many, if not all, of our young people are given the chance to feedback after an activity at their group or one run by the District/ County, giving our leaders the chance to see what it is that our young people enjoy doing within their Scouting activities.

It has been brilliant to see more and more Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers gaining their YouShape award by setting themselves a goal, planning, leading and representing in their Section. Well done to everyone who has completed the full award! This award has now launched for Squirrels who are on their way to achieving it already.

Our Network members have also been stepping up and taking on more of a role in sharing ideas and running different programme nights according to what their members want to do and have enjoyed taking part in previously.

A great step forward in ensuring that all of our young members from 4-24 are involved in shaping their own Scouting journey!

Gabby Howson-Tax

Youth Lead Volunteer
District Leadership Team





Squirrels

Our second year of Squirrels in Blackpool has been even better than the first! Our Squirrels are loving the adventure and showing everybody just what they can do!

We now have 6 Dreys in the District: 4th Blackpool, 7th Blackpool, 8th Blackpool, 57th Blackpool, 1st Bispham and 1st Staining, with another few on the horizon.

In October, Blackpool Gang Show had its first ever Squirrels performing in the show at the Grand Theatre and what a great job they did! From opening the show to 'holding out for a hero', their song and dance along with other members of the cast was spectacular to see!

In November Squirrel Scouts in Blackpool also took part in their first Swimming Gala competition and splashed their way to the finish line. It was a brilliant afternoon with the Squirrels taking part wanting to stay in the water for much longer! Many of our Squirrels also took part in their first Remembrance Day services within their own groups.

In December lots of Squirrels joined in with the District's 'Carols around the Campfire' where we joined other members of Blackpool Scouts for an evening of activities, food and of course singing around the magnificent campfire.

April brought around the Junior Jamboree with other Squirrels, Beavers and Cubs around the County. Blackpool Squirrels had an adventure filled day, canoeing on the water, completing low ropes courses and practicing our target sports with some archery and axe-throwing. It was also brilliant to see another St. George's Day celebration at Stanley Park where our Squirrels got stuck in with more fabulous activities before renewing our Squirrel Scout promise together.

This year we have seen 4 separate nights away for our Squirrels, one of which being our first District Sleepover themed around going on a bear hunt. The Squirrels that attended made maps and binoculars to find the bear and set off on their very own hunt for the Bear (who wasn't as scary as we thought!). A brilliant start to implementing nights away into our Squirrel Scouts programme.

2024 has already seen Squirrels growing their own gardens, learning about animals (both at group nights and visits to Pets at Home), building dens, making bug hotels and much more. It has been a pleasure to see and hear about all the badge work and fun and exciting activities that you have been getting up to.

I am very proud to have congratulated and presented many Squirrels on achieving their Chief Scouts Acorn Award, the highest award that can be earned as a Squirrel. It has been brilliant to see these Squirrels move on to start their next adventures in Beavers.

For everything over the past year to take place, there has been a great deal of planning and enthusiasm from the Squirrel Leaders within the District, many of whom are new to Scouting or to the roles they have taken on. The support from their groups and group lead volunteers has been an immense help in getting this brand-new section off the ground and started on their journey.

A big thank you to everyone who has supported the Squirrel Section over the past year with all our activities, many of which couldn't have gone ahead without your assistance.

We look forward to taking the Squirrel Section forward within Blackpool over the coming years!

Gabby Howson-Tax

Squirrel Section Team Leader
Programme Team



BEAVERS

It has been fantastic to see all the exciting adventures our Beaver Colonies have been getting up to over the past 12 months.

Back in April it was St George's Day in the park, the sun shone and we enjoyed a treasure hunt, archery, catapults, and tug of war before renewing our Promise at the Bandstand. In May lots of us volunteered to take part in the Big Help Out. It was great to see the young people and their families making a positive contribution to our community. I also enjoyed seeing our colonies take part in the final JOTT around the Fylde Arboretum area. My thanks to the Cub Section Team for organising.

In June, I was delighted to see Colonies at the County Beaver Event, Puddle & Waddle Camp at Waddecarr Campsite. A lot of plastic ducks, kayaks and much more! Great to be joined by some Squirrels too. Sadly, the unpredictable British weather caused us to cancel our Forest Fun event. Whilst we did manage to re-schedule, we were sorry it meant some Beavers did miss out. Thank you as ever for your support with this.

Autumn started with a visit to Bibby's Farm for the County Beaver Skills Day. A fantastic opportunity to be in the outdoors and working towards a multitude of Challenge and Activity badges. October, it was a delight to see many Beaver Scouts perform at The Grand Theatre in Blackpool Gang Show – we were so very proud! The Swimming Gala was back in November! Well done to all those who took part. December brought 'Carols around the Campfire' a chance to join other members of Blackpool District. A huge thank you for all the generous donations for local charities in need.

We were also very excited to try a new event, Forest Christmas Crafts, a chance to learn, and be brave enough to use some new tools and make some unique Christmas decorations. In February, 160 Beavers and volunteers headed to Manchester Science & Industry Museum. A great day of hands-on learning, from textiles to experiments, the Industrial Revolution to modern technology. In March we brought back the Great Beaver Bake Off

with lots of teams taking part. Thank you to Paul and Christine our judges and well done to our winners 1st Norbreck.

In April, Beavers and Cubs got together for a weekend at Waddecarr for the Junior Jamboree. Organised by the County Korean Jamboree Team. The rain and mud certainly didn't put us off! Archery, climbing, tomahawks, kayaks, orienteering, Korean crafts and food plus a talent show!

2024 has already brought Colony visits and sleepovers, external visitors, and badge earning. I have been delighted to see and hear the badge work you have been focussing on over the past 12 months! Congratulations to so many Beaver Scouts on achieving the Chief Scout Bronze Award. This also meant we had to say goodbye to lots of young people who moved onto Cubs, and we can't wait to see you in the next stage of your Scouting journey.

Our young people are fortunate to have such amazing volunteers. I am also reliant on such a supportive Leadership Team. Sadly, after over 10 years of dedicated service to the Beaver Section Team, John Sanderson stepped down from his role. During this time John has not only run his own successful colony but shared his skills and expertise with all our leaders and young people across the District. His outstanding service to the Beaver Section is to be commended as a Section Team Leader and in our District Team. The number of young people who benefitted from his dedication and the opportunities he provided will be felt for years to come. I have been so fortunate to gain so much knowledge and expertise over our time working together, I will be forever grateful. I know you will all join me in thanking John for his time and support and wish him well, I know he will always remain a firm supporter of our Beavers.

A special thank you must go to the rest of my team, Sarah, Ann, Irene and Anastasia. Also, thank you to the wider District Team who we are fortunate to have as support at our events, without you simply none of this would be possible. Here's to another exciting year!

Emma Hornby
Beaver Section Team Leader
Programme Team





Over the past year, our focus has been on how we can offer a wider range of experiences to our young people and support them to achieve the Chief Scout Silver Award.

2023 started off with a new event, Race to Silver, using Mowbreck Campsite. Taking input from the packs, the team put on a nights away experience, covering aspects of the Outdoor Challenge badge to help provide the opportunities for members to obtain the missing parts of the Chief Scout Silver Award. This will be returning as we look to help bridge any gaps in programmes.

We also offered another new experience in November. The Sea Life Centre was booked to enable our members the chance to sleep with the sharks and learn all about life under the sea.

In January, a favourite evening returned, the board games night. A chance for Cubs and volunteers to come together over two nights to play games and take part in the Cub District Chess Competition.

In February, we arranged for Cubs to earn their Snow Sports Stage 1 badge with a chilly but sunny day out to Rossendale Ski slope. Attended by 97 Cub Scouts, the day was a great success and we even spotted some leaders enjoying the slopes!

To celebrate the highest award, we returned to the Town Hall so our young people could have their awards presented by the mayor as well as in front of family and the leaders who had supported their journey. We are proud of the 65 Cubs that earned this award and the effort that goes into it.

March saw our rebranded Blackpool District Cub Scout Challenge event, with 8 packs competing in Scouting skills challenges new & old. Areas such as first aid, pioneering, cardboard ovens, fencing and our ultimate disaster were provided. It was a really competitive competition with 1st Bispham coming out as winners. We would like to thank the Leaders who came down to run and support the event.

In May, a group of Cub Scouts and leaders ventured out from Blackpool on an overnight trip to York. We travelled by train, visiting all the main sights, including the Minster, Castle Museum and a wizarding walk around the Shambles. The Cubs and leaders had a great experience with some very tired feet at the end! A great positive from the event has resulted in multiple Cubs applying for future international events based on the confidence gained from the York experience.

With the JOTT coming to an end, we didn't want to let this successful event leave the calendar as it's a great link night for all the sections. It also helps with getting Scouting out and about in the town therefore we created BOTT - Blackpool On The Trail. The theme this year was the Elmer Trail to link with an event going on around Blackpool town centre. We have planned a three-year cycle to encompass the whole of the District.

We supported a quick turnaround to enable Cubs to attend County Cub Camp at Waddecar, securing the tented village to help with the logistics for our group. It was a real pleasure to see Cubs and Leaders from across the district pitching in to make the weekend a success.

Our biannual Athletics night was held in June at Stanley Park. Over 100 Cubs used the athletics arena to run, jump and throw to achieve their badge.

As I look back over this period, I am proud of what we have been able to offer. None of this would be possible without the continued support of the Cub Section team, our volunteers and the young people. As a team we're already looking forward to what new opportunities and experiences we can offer the Cubs in Blackpool through 2024/25 and how we can support our fellow volunteers.

Stephen Chow

Cub Section Team Leader
Programme Team



SCOUTS

What a great year it's been, with so many events and activities organised by our small army of volunteers.

A Scout is to be trusted

When Scouts got stuck in with the cooking competition in November, our courageous taste testers put us to the test. The Scouts were tasked with preparing a dish with a Christmas theme, aiming for both delicious taste, and avoiding poisoning the judges! 5th Blackpool demonstrated exceptional creativity by cooking a delicious meal whilst staying within budget, earning first prize. Every group made an amazing effort. Well done!

A Scout is loyal

We all came together in April to honour St. George, the patron saint of Scouting. Looking quite sharp in their uniforms, our Scouts and leaders visited Stanley Park engaging in a mass of entertaining activities, we renewed our promise and laws in the bandstand. Amazingly the sun shone all day long!

A Scout is friendly and considerate

Following the triumph last year, the decision was made to once again utilise centralised cooking at County Rally at Waddecar. We all worked together on an industrial scale, hauling up a mountain of marquees, and pitching a tonne of tents! Both our Scouts and volunteers always look forward to County Rally due to the sheer variety of activities on offer. From tug-of-war, volleyball and shooting, climbing, kayaking and a silent disco, which was anything but silent! Making friends and having fun!

A Scout belongs to the worldwide family of Scouts

In South Korea, 43,000 Scouts from 158 different countries gathered for the 25th World Scout Jamboree. Scouts from across the County (with four of our own from Blackpool) began an unforgettable journey. The adventure was filled with new experiences, cultures and a heat wave like no other! They showed perseverance and the ability to adapt, making memories along the way. Planning for 2027 in Poland is already well under way.

A Scout has courage in all difficulties

Although there have been numerous moments of bravery this past year, Scout Cars is our own unique take on Formula One. More than 20 teams from across the UK compete to be the fastest on the track, with six of them coming from Blackpool. They must navigate bends and chicanes and opponents from 49th Eastfield secured 1st place. 57th Blackpool came 2nd and 1st Norbreck secured 3rd!

A Scout makes good use of time and is careful of possessions and property

Who Dares Wins. Every November, older Scouts connect with our Explorer Scouts at an orienteering challenge. Teams are assigned checkpoints along a course and must navigate through difficult terrain in typical Lancashire weather conditions, whilst relying on maps and compass skills only. They must be mindful of the clock, as they must reach checkpoints in an allotted time and take care of their equipment. The final checkpoint must be reached before the time runs out, to avoid being captured!

A Scout has self respect and respect for others

On the 11th hour, of the 11th day, of the 11th month. "We will remember them" What better way to demonstrate our appreciation and respect? With pride and thanks, donning our poppies to our immaculately ironed uniform. Each year we attend the cenotaph to honour our armed forces and remember those who have died whilst serving their country. Whilst scouting is all about enjoyment and FUN, it's also about taking the time to honour those who sacrificed so much to enable us to have that. Every year, the Scouts make the district proud by participating in the parade in all weather conditions as our way of saying 'thank you'.

This spectacular year would not have been possible without the incredible work of our volunteers who have given their own time to provide the Scouts with experiences they will never forget. A special thanks goes to Emma Harrison who led the District Scout Section team from Sept 2020 - April 2024.

You are all amazing individuals, and I hope that the next year is filled with even more fun and exciting adventures.

Claire Hadgraft

Scout Section Team Leader
Programme Team



EXPLORERS

Another year full of opportunities for Explorer Scouts. We have had Explorers travel as close to home as the Lake District and as far as South Korea, making memories that they won't ever forget.

All 3 of our Units have been running with youth led programmes and with an influx of new starters, we continue to support them to learn how to review and develop programmes which can be enjoyed by all.

Programmes consisting of traditional Scouting skills such as pioneering and campfires to adventurous activities such as climbing, cycling and kayaking. They have also arranged activities which have helped the community such as stone painting for Sam's Superheroes, site service at Mowbreck Campsite, improving the environment by collecting and conducting studies on litter and making bird boxes which were donated to a local school. The creativity on some evenings has been very impressive and we continue to build on teamwork.

We have had good times with investitures on roller skates and standing in kayaks! Sad times as some of our Explorers turn 18 and move onwards and upwards! Some have become volunteers within Scouting and will pass on the experience they have had to the younger sections. We have also had Explorers join the County 'Ignite' weekend which was to teach leadership skills for the future.

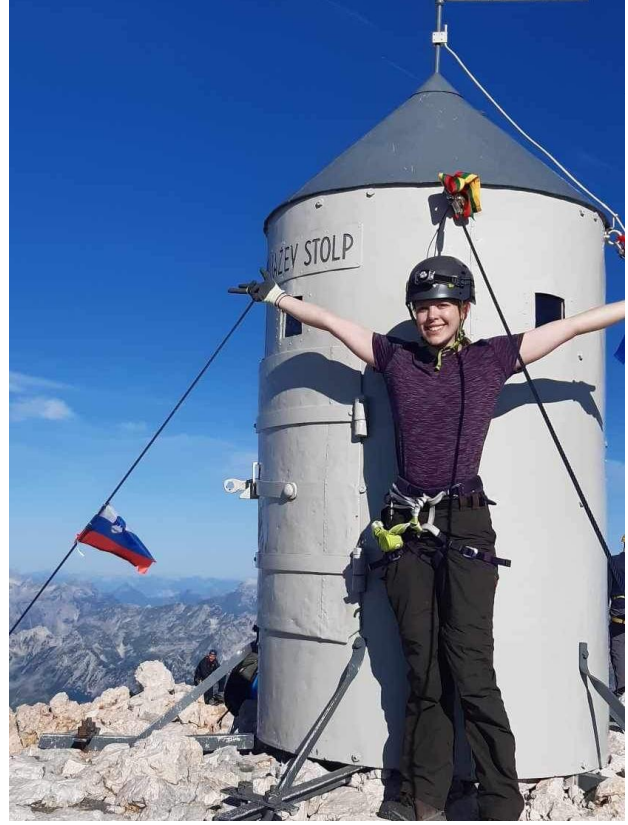
Following on from the theme of teamwork we have again won the West Lancashire Scout County Mountain Activity Challenge, a competition based around map work and camping skills and have joined with the Scouts for another Successful Who Dares Wins. I look forward to working with Claire to arrange further linking activities to help the Scouts transition to Explorers.

I would like to thank the leaders in our team for their hard work and support. Additional support is required so if you are interested in taking on a task no matter how small within the section, please get in touch.

I look forward to the coming year of transformation as we move into the 14-24 Team working closer with our Scout Network.

Joanna Hacking

Explorer Section Team Leader
14-24 Team



network

The last 12 months has been another year of adventure for our network members.

Over the summer we had several of our members go on to a County Trip to the Baltics. Whilst cultivating their knowledge on North Macedonia history, National parks, local cuisine and lots more, they completed one of the top 4 awards in Scouting, their Explorer Belt. I had the immense pleasure to watch and learn about their trips. I was really impressed with the 2 making it onto a national radio whilst another managed to do a badge swap from North Macedonia to Korea. They all sounded amazing and unique, which is the true beauty of this award.

Whilst we had members in the Baltics, we had members on other County international trips over the summer. With climbing the Julian Alps to assisting an explorer trip to an Austrian Jamboree. With a further international trip taking on the seas with Yachting in Croatia over the October Half term. All these experiences enhance and shape the lives of our members and those around them.

We have welcomed and invested new members to the section this year, with investitures clinging on to a climbing wall; to falling into the water from a Paddle Board; to the highs of the Lake District. Our programme has been filled with exciting opportunities to get the team out to the great outdoors and some chill evenings where we come to relax. Network does it all. We have been Yachting on Coniston, trips to the local chippys whilst walking the illuminations, climbing, several hikes across the Trough of Bowland and the Lake District, craft nights, roller blading, Martial Arts lessons, BOTT walk and much more.

We also had 3 members head down to the capital, to collect their DofE Gold, Queen Scout Award (QSA) and the District's first King Scout Award (KSA). Whilst other members collected their awards from the County team at its celebration evening. Well done to everybody who attained an award this year and for those working towards them, keeping working hard, you'll get there!

Over the year we have been growing our links and friendships with the rest of the county by attending Gathering and Reconnected with good numbers. These are great opportunities to try something different with new people. We're also always looking to get involved with the Explorer Scout section, with linked nights for a Halloween Scare Fest, climbing and First Aid.

We look forward to transitioning over the next year to the 14-24 Team and working ever closer with the Explorers team.

Thank you to everybody who has assisted over the last 12 months and thank you to everybody who will assist over the next 12 months. Here's to the next year, another year where we can continue to expand our achievements and celebrate our successes.

Liam Chow

Scout Network Team Leader
14-24 Team



2023 was another busy year at Mowbreck with almost every weekend having campers on site and several evening visits not just from Blackpool but Kirkham & Wesham, Clifton, Fylde and Fylde Guides. We have also had visits from St. Nicholas Forest School and this year also sees their return as well as Fylde Coast Home Education.

The archery and tomahawks had a good uptake with lots taking on the challenge of trying a new activity. If you are a permit holder and willing to volunteer your services please contact Andy Inglis.

Thank you for all who have volunteered to help with our activities and to our “meet & greet” team. There is always a lot to do when running a campsite from looking after the flower beds, weeding, taking ivy from the trees to strimming and cutting the grass - we already have a team of Mowers and we are hugely thankful for all that they do. We have purchased a new mower and a strimmer to help with the upkeep of the site.

We had a working weekend in March. Sadly only a few people turned up to help but that was a real help. Look out for the next one, and if you can, please give an hour or so of your time - brews and biscuits for all who show up!

Those who have been to Mowbreck since January will have seen a new dry shelter being built which is now open and being used - thanks to Stephen Joyce for all your hard work creating this! A very special thank you to Peter Greathead whose generosity enabled us to complete this building. Bookings this year are again really good, the diary for 2025 is open so if you know you want to visit get in and book early so you're not disappointed!

Once again thank you to the volunteers and if you would like to give some of your time to Mowbreck in any way please, please contact one of the team - remember it's your site let's look after it!

Andy and Stephen

Mowbreck Campsite Managers



Blackpool Gang Show

Gang Show 2023 saw a sprinkling of comedy sketches. I am not sure the real jamboree attendees had such a hectic time packing their gear or that the world of radio broadcast is as mixed up in real life!

We were taken on a journey as our 'secret agents' recovered the stolen secrets and saved the world in true James Bond style. The Junior Gang sang and danced to songs celebrating all the superheroes that played their part over the last couple of years. We sang two of Dolly Parton's biggest hits as we paid tribute to her 50 years entertaining the whole world. 'Who's in Scouts'. We really found out in this hilarious sketch. I think they got it right at least once, very funny.

The whole cast paid tribute to our new king in a fantastic 1st half finale. The Junior Gang were the 'Men in Black'. We saw a variation of the Halloween theme as we Wooed Wednesday and met some spooky characters including some stripping skeletons! We were entertained by a duet singing 'Don't Go Breaking My Heart'. Then we were introduced to the hectic morning of a wedding and what happens if one detail is missed. The monologue 'Jabberwocky' was admirably performed by Theo from the Junior Gang, well done. We then danced to hits from the 80's, laughed at a comedy sketch all the way from Greece before we signed our performance of 'Make Your Own Kind of Music' and then wrapped it up with a fantastic finale medley and some Gang Show favourites.

This year saw Steve Townsend take on the role of Musical Director and what a brilliant job he did and such a



talented musician. Steve was joined by Doug Cox. Who will forget his stick twirling antics, and the fantastic sounds he produced from his drum kit. Without such a talented team organising the music and ensuring we sound great the show would not be as successful.

Trips to see Chester Gang Show and Chorley Capers Gang Show were organised and a great evening out was had by all who made the trips.

2024 sees Darrell and Steve hand over the production of the next Gang Show to Jordan and Tor. Jo steps down as Treasurer making way for Jen to look after the accounts.

We wish them all the best as they take the show into the future!

Steve and Darrell

Gang Show Leadership Team 2023





Scout Active Support Unit

Another busy year for SASU supporting many activities and events. Here are some highlights.

In July we welcomed Brenda, our new Treasurer to our Group. After a few hiccups transferring account details we won through eventually!

Two of our members, John and Michelle ran a Tombola stall for us and raised £100 for our funds, well done.

In September we organised a social afternoon tea at the Hungry Elephant. It was a wonderful afternoon with many good friends. In October we supported the Gang Show and the swimming gala. November saw SASU out in force at Armistice Day and later coordinating refreshments at the programme leaders seminar.

In the latter part of the year we were informed that Scouting was to undergo a change and as part of that transformation, SASU members had presentations which provided an explanation of the way forward and promoted discussion on how our members would fit into the new teams. A process that is still ongoing.

We wanted to support every group in the District and after a discussion we decided to donate membership badges to them so all benefitted.

Our, Late, late New year lunch was held at the Sheraton hotel and it was a great day for people to dine, talk and make more memories.

It is always nice to receive news of awards being given to our members. This year we congratulate...

- Ann Clayton, awarded her Silver Wolf.
- Eileen Hagan, awarded the British Empire Medal for services to the community.
- Leah Lovelock – 10 year service certificate.
- Michelle Naylor – 5 year service certificate.

Bringing the year to a close was the annual St George's Day dinner dance enjoyed by all and co-organised by a team including a SASU member.

In the future we will still meet as a group of friends with Scouting as our common bond, if you would like to join us contact Phil & Irene.

Irene Wheatley

Scout Active Support Unit Manager



Our finances

Receipts and Payments account

For the year ending 31st March 2024

	2023-2024	2022-2023
	£	£
Receipts		
AGM/DC Retirement	0	1214
Badge Receipts	7261	5788
Carol Service	40	0
Dinner Dance	8747	7622
District Camp	0	15180
Donations	622	251
Greathead (DC)	500	500
HQ Charity Account	27040	0
Interest and dividends received	7457	3247
International	0	58
Jamboree	0	6085
Membership fees	30948	27047
Miscellaneous	80	404
Network Neckers	43	68
Paul Marshall Legacy	0	853411
Recruitment/Media	30	36
Stakeholder Lunch	0	100
Swimming Gala	80	0
Training	86	0
44th Blackpool	1217	0
	84150	921009
Section Income		
Beaver Scouts	4998	553
Cub Scouts	11284	18169
Explorer Scouts	10935	13964
Gang Show	21252	18688
Mowbreck Beer Festival	0	0
Mowbreck Campsite	16405	6161
Paul Marshall Legacy	865816	0
SASU	1110	3
Scouts	8762	2457
Service Team	0	0
	940561	59996
Total Receipts	1024711	981005

Receipts and Payments account (continued)

For the year ending 31st March 2024

	2023-2024	2022-2023
	£	£
Payments		
AGM/DC Retirement	678	1590
Awards Evening	0	58
Badge Payments	6614	5230
Carol Service	109	0
Dinner Dance	6956	5246
District Camp	0	13869
District Expenses	6605	2356
Greathead (DC)	510	490
Insurances	636	854
International	2717	800
Jamboree	1120	8300
Membership Fees	30710	48746
Miscellaneous	0	401
Network Neckers	0	387
Paul Marshall Legacy	859101	0
Recruitment/Media	1153	1220
St George's Day	143	0
Stakeholder Lunch	0	137
Swimming Gala	638	0
Training	1134	345
Welfare	0	230
Young Leader Training	219	0
Youth Commissioner	0	52
44th Blackpool	964	0
	920007	90310
Section Costs		
Beaver Scouts	3955	1168
Cub Scouts	11964	21170
Explorer Scouts	10554	14174
Gang Show	17241	18365
Mowbreck Beer Festival	0	0
Mowbreck Campsite	19722	4134
SASU	1938	231
Scouts	7020	2707
Service Team	0	0
	72392	61950
Total Payments	992399	152260

Net Surplus/(Deficit) for the year

32312

828745

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

For the year ending 31st March 2024

	2023-2024		2022-2023	
	£	£	£	£
Assets				
Monetary balances (cash and bank)		984618		952092
Investment assets				
Scout short term investment fund	0		26851	
Rayner funds: 668.6 units in the Charities Office				
Investment Fund at Valuation	13661		12572	
		13661		39423
		998280		991515
Non-monetary assets				
Stock of badges	5106		4840	
Mowbreck training centre	30000		30000	
Mowbreck buildings/contents	37500		0	
Mowbreck equipment	22500		0	
District equipment	20950		19091	
		116056		5391
		1114336		1045446
Liabilities				
Advance payments		0		954
44th Blackpool		253		0
		1114083		1044492
Represented by				
Reserves brought forward		1048874		177868
Net surplus/(deficit) for the year		32312		828745
Increase/(reduction) in value of investment funds		1089		-448
Increase/(reduction) in value of non monetary assets		62126		17625
Less increase/(reduction) in liabilities		-701		-25084
Reserves carried forward		1145102		177868

Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of Blackpool District Scout Council

I report on the accounts of the District for the year ending 31st March 2023 which are set out on pages 26 to 31.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The District's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission
- under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiners report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the District and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiners statement

In connection with my examination, no other matter has come to my attention:

- which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material aspect the requirement to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 act have not been met; or
- which in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Mike Heed

6 Hexham Ave
Thornton
Cleveleys
FY5 2NP

Signed



Date 20.06.2024

Notes to the Accounts

For the year ending 31st March 2024

Note 1: Cash at bank and in hand

	2023-2024	2022-2023
Exec accounts	£	£
CAF bank current account	3595	1989
CAF bank gold account	53676	891249
Virgin account	110	0
	57381	893238
Section Accounts		
Beavers	2133	1089
Beer Festival	5059	5059
Cubs	3555	4236
Explorers	2611	2154
Gang Show	16971	12760
Mowbreck	27611	30927
Paul Marshall Legacy	865816	0
SASU	530	1514
Scout Car Races	310	310
Scouts	2117	375
Service Team	429	429
	927142	58853
Total	984522	952092

Notes to the Accounts (continued)

For the year ending 31st March 2024

Note 2: Analysis of Reserves

	2023-2024	2022-2023
	£	£
Total Reserves Less:	1113987	1048874
Non-monetary assets + loans and liabilities	116310	54885
Restricted Funds		
Rayner Bequest	997	12527
Butterworth Bequest	12113	12873
Designated Funds		
Beer Festival	5059	5059
District Camp	3000	3000
Explorers	2611	2154
Gang Show	16971	12760
Greathead Fund	0	10
International	672	58
Jamboree	1500	3451
Membership Fees	30000	30000
Mowbreck	27611	30927
Recruitment/Media	500	0
Paul Marshall Legacy	865816	853411
SASU	530	1514
Scout Car Races	310	310
Service Team	429	429
Young Leader Training	281	0
Youth Commissioner Fund	200	36
Free Reserves	29078	25470

Reserves Policy

The District mainly raises its running costs from its members and has limited capacity for other fund raising, therefore the trustees exercise a prudent approach to their free reserves policy: the trustees will initiate additional fund raising when free reserves fall to below the equivalent of nine months annual costs measured against the latest Executive Income and Expenditure account or the forward budget plan.

Donations

We gratefully acknowledge the following generous contributors to our fund raising this year: Peter Greathead and Ian Gledhill. Also continue to benefit from the legacies of Mrs Patricia Butterworth and F G Rayner.

Our membership

Census results for the year ending 31 January 2024

	Male	Female	Self-identify	Prefer not to say	Total
Youth membership					
Squirrel Scouts	44	20	0	0	64
Beaver Scouts	160	49	0	0	209
Cub Scouts	150	69	0	0	219
Scouts	107	75	0	1	183
Explorer Scouts (including Young Leaders)	33	32	0	0	65
Network members	5	19	1	0	25
	499	264	1	1	765
Adult membership (listing the main role category for each adult volunteer)					
Programme delivery roles	69	106	0	0	175
Plus Young Leaders*	19	19	0	0	38
Manager roles	9	10	0	0	19
Governance roles	20	15	0	0	35
Support roles	45	36	0	0	81
	143	167	0	0	310
Total membership	642	431	1	1	1075

*Young Leader totals are not included in the overall totals as they are already included in Explorer Scout totals.

Our District comprises

Census results for the year ending 31 January 2024

Squirrel Scout Dreys	5
Beaver Scout Colonies	16
Cub Scout Packs	17
Scout Troops	16
Explorer Scout Units (including YL Units)	4
Active Support Units	3
Young Leader Units	1
Groups	17

Our board of trustees

Governance structure and executive committee membership - 31 March 2023 to 1 April 2024

Ex-Officio

District Commissioner	Matthew Hornby
District Chair	Chris Hardy
District Secretary	Elizabeth Abbott
District Treasurer	Janet Hardy
District Explorer Scout Commissioner	Joanna Hacking
District Scout Network Commissioner	Liam Chow
District Youth Commissioner	Gabrielle Howson-Tax

Nominated

Joan Swan
Lesley Meddings
Andy Mitchell

Elected

Andy Inglis
Emma Harrison
Robert Ward
Philip Wheatley*
Diane Parkinson*
Peter Rumley**
Tor Kenmare**
Ted Cooper**

*Until July 2023

**From July 2023

Our Scout ambassadors

Our incredible team of ambassadors. They have one thing in common: to share far and wide how Scouts is helping young people gain skills for life.

- **Steve Royle**, Actor, Comedian & Radio Presenter
- **Nicola Thorp**, Actor, Broadcaster & Journalist
- **Hayley Kay**, Radio Presenter
- **Ged Mills**, Radio Presenter
- **Paul Maynard**, Former Member of Parliament for Blackpool North & Cleveleys
- **Gordon Marsden**, Former Member of Parliament for Blackpool South

Roll of honour

Congratulations to all who have been honoured with awards. It's a privilege to present awards to our volunteers. Our congratulations to all recognised in the St. George's Day awards for their contribution, dedication and loyalty to Scouting in Blackpool.

2023

Ann Clayton - Silver Wolf

This award is the unrestricted gift of the Chief Scout. Awarded for service of exceptional nature.

Sylvia Johns - Bar to the Silver Acorn

Awarded after at least five years of similarly distinguished service after receiving the Silver Acorn.

Joanne Fratzak - Award for Merit

Awarded for outstanding service. Keen, conscientious, imaginative and dedicated service

Nichola Bonsor - Bar to the Award for Merit.

Awarded after at least five years of further outstanding service after receiving the Award for Merit.

John Sanderson - Bar to the Award for Merit.

Awarded after at least five years of further outstanding service after receiving the Award for Merit.

Mark Stubbs - Bar to the Award for Merit.

Awarded after at least five years of further outstanding service after receiving the Award for Merit.

2024

Matt Hornby - Bar to the Award for Merit.

Awarded after at least five years of further outstanding service after receiving the Award for Merit.

Stephen Shaw - Award for Merit

Awarded for outstanding service. Keen, conscientious, imaginative and dedicated service

Sarah Whiteside - Award for Merit

Awarded for outstanding service. Keen, conscientious, imaginative and dedicated service

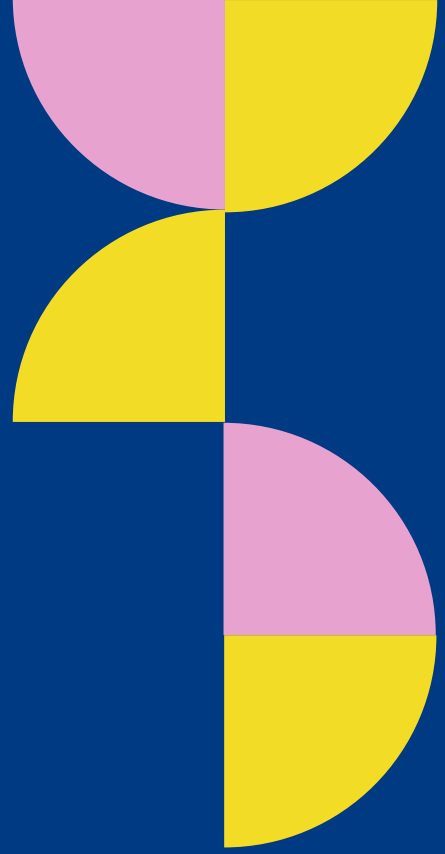
Gone home

Some of our members have gone home this year and we say goodbye to these much-loved members and supporters.

- Fiona Chow
- Christine Fitton BEM JP
- Eileen Hagan BEM

Our thanks

Blackpool Scouts would like to thank all its volunteers and supporters for their commitment and contributions over the last year. We look forward to another year of making a positive contribution and impact on society.



blackpoolscouts.org.uk

#SkillsForLife

Blackpool Scouts Registered Charity number 521534



BLACKPOOL DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

England & Wales - Charity number 521534

Accounts

**Annual report
and accounts
2022-2023**

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Scouts
Blackpool

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Welcome from the Chair

Welcome to Blackpool District Scouts' Annual General Meeting 2023!

I was delighted to accept the offer from our District Commissioner to accept the role of Chair of the Board of Trustees and further contribute to Scouting across Blackpool.

The work by the Board of Trustees continues with new members welcomed on board and the committee growing. The launch of the new strategy for the District was released earlier this year and it shows the commitment of all to growing, developing and continually improving Scouting. Yes, there are some challenging targets to grow our membership, but as the largest volunteer group across Blackpool and the dedication of all of our volunteers, we as an executive and wider District team and certain we will all rise to the challenge!

Work continues across Mowbreck Scout Campsite and this is now supported by Peter Rumley taking on the role of Chair for Mowbreck. Lots of work already completed and plans for further development to maintain and develop the site for many more years.

This year has also seen local stakeholder events held with key stakeholders and Council members to again seek funding, support and raise awareness of what they can do for scouting,

and what scouting can do for them – we are confident that going forward this partnership can only benefit us all.

As you all will be aware, the hunt for a new HQ goes on, but as we have said we won't rush this as we will make sure we buy the right property for us and Scouting. Thank you to all who have offered support and suggestions of buildings.

Finally, as ever from the Board of Trustees thank you for your ongoing support and effort, we can never forget the positive impact we all have on the children involved in scouting and the memories, life skills and positive influence they are receiving – thank you!

Chris Hardy

Chair of the Board of Trustees

A year of adventure

As I reach 12 months having been in post as the Lead Volunteer for the District, I took a moment to reflect on the last year and what has been achieved.

I am sure you will agree with me when reading through this year's report that since the pandemic we really have bounced back! It is truly fantastic to see our young people getting out and about once again learning those valuable #SkillsForLife.

I truly believe, in our post pandemic world that Scouting is needed more in our communities in Blackpool now than it ever has been. Scouts really are a force for good and have such a positive impact. The skills that we teach our young people prepares them for a better future.

We have produced a strategy which sets out a clear plan and objective for us as an organisation on how we will work with partners in Blackpool to bring Scouting to more areas of the town and bridge those gaps to bring communities together.

We have made some really good progress on our pillars of work as outlined in our strategy.

We have formed a programme team, and this is working hard to ensure that as a District we bring new experiences to our young people with activities and events that they may not have had the opportunity to do before.

As a District we are committed to supporting our adults by giving them the tools and support to deliver high quality and varied programmes. We will be continuing to support our volunteers by providing some workshops for team leaders and also team members to ensure that they feel empowered to continue to deliver the best opportunities they can.

We have held an event with key stakeholders in the town with a view to forge new relationships and partners and ensuring that Blackpool Scouts is well known by people outside of the organisation. This is really positive, and I hope that these partnerships will continue to grow.

We have seen new sections start including new Squirrel Dreys and also brought provisions together to make them stronger within the communities in which they are part of.

We are determined to make a difference, grow our membership, increase our visibility, and become a key part of our town.

I would like to thank each and everyone of you for all that you do. You are making a real difference to the lives of young people in Blackpool and together this can only go from strength to strength!

Matt Hornby

Lead Volunteer
(District Commissioner)

Our vision

By **2025** we will have prepared more young people with skills for life, supported by amazing leaders delivering an inspiring programme. We will be growing, more inclusive, shaped by young people and making a bigger impact in our communities.

Our goals

We will achieve the following goals against our four objectives:

Growth

- Grow to 900 young people
- Increase adult volunteers to 400
- More young leaders, 2 per section
- Fewer sections with less than 12 members
- All Groups with at least 3 sections

Inclusivity

- Our members reflect the demographics of our local area
- Stronger groups within areas of deprivation within the town
- Increase our members from underrepresented communities

Youth Shaped

- 100% of young people shaping their Scouting experience
- 50% of young people achieving their top awards

Community Impact

- Young people making a positive difference in their local community
- Develop a community impact week

Our pillars of work

To meet these objectives, we will focus on four pillars of work:

Programme

A fun, enjoyable, high-quality programme consistently delivered and supported by simple (digital) tools.

People

More, well trained, better supported and motivated adult volunteers, and more young people from diverse backgrounds.

Perception

Scouting is understood, more visible, trusted, respected and widely seen as playing a key role in society today.

Places

Good quality, practical locations are available to support our scouting programme across Blackpool.



Youth Shaped

Blackpool District is in a really good position in regard to the percentage of Groups and sections that are running a Youth Shaped programme.

When I have been out and about visiting Groups, it has been clear that around 70% of our Groups are giving their young people the chance to input into their own programme- whether this is in the form of a termly gathering of ideas, or purely through gaining feedback at the end of a session, activity or camp.

As well as our groups, our District Sections have increased how youth shaped their programme and events have become, which has been great to see.

As well as our young people getting involved with their Group and District programmes, they have also been involved with shaping our County programme. At this year's WLSshape23, Blackpool was represented by 5 Scouts, 4 Explorers and 2 Network members, along with all our ADCs for these sections. They met at Myerscough College for a morning of youth shaped sessions and then enjoyed their afternoon with some bowling and mini golf at the Flower Bowl.

These Young People represented Blackpool exceptionally and spoke out during their morning sessions. As well as the West Lancashire County's Youth Shaped event, our young people have also been looking to shape their programme through providing input at County section events, such as the County Cub

Sixers and Seconders weekend and Puddle and Waddle.

Whilst our volunteers have increased how youth shaped our programme is, there is always more we can do to ensure that our young people are making the most out of their scouting journey and I hope to increase our group statistics to 90% or more by next year.

Gabby Howson-Tax
District Youth Commissioner





Our first year of Squirrel Scouts in the District has been a huge success! We currently have 5 Dreys, 7th Blackpool, 4th Blackpool, 1st Bispham, 1st Staining and 57th Blackpool.

It has been a big year for our 4 and 5 year old Squirrels, the newest Section, and an even bigger year, and immense learning experience, for the brilliant volunteers. The volunteers, though not all new to Scouting, are all new to a brand-new Section. There is a huge amount of practical and programme support available from HQ when a Squirrel Drey opens, but the volunteers have all had to 'learn by doing' as there is no historical programme template the volunteers inherit from more experienced leaders- and each and everyone has been exceptional and risen to the challenge.

Squirrels love getting messy! Whether it is nature activities when making a bug hotel, planting sunflowers and growing cress or craft activities making some wonderful artwork creations with their extremely vivid imaginations of Loch Ness Monsters and virtual campsites to exciting scientific experiments with jelly and salt dough. The messier the better!

The year has been full to bursting with investitures, presentations of the Chief Scout's Acorn Award, Challenge and Activity Badges. The first Squirrel sleepover was held at the 7th Blackpool and there are further sleepovers

planned for the Squirrels to enjoy and be part of.

Squirrels have enjoyed being part of the District Carol Service and St. George's Day event and we had a lovely time celebrating our Founders Day with the Beaver Scouts, thank you to Emma Hornby, and team, for inviting us and organising the event.

In addition, Squirrels joined fun days at Waddecar Scout Activity Centre, tasting adventurous activities at the County Fun Day and Puddle and Waddle event; an excellent linking event with the Beaver Scouts.

It has been a very, very, special first year in the new Section; full of fun and laughter. The Squirrels, volunteers and supporters have made this year so very extra special. The Squirrels are brilliant; very, very inquisitive and with a thirst for adventure, the volunteers are extra special!

I would like to thank each and everyone within Blackpool Scout District who have encouraged and supported the opening of Squirrel Dreys in their Groups.

We look forward to a further 12 months of even more adventure and activities, outings and getting even more messy!

Victoria DaSilva

Assistant County Commissioner
(Squirrel Scouts)





We begin thinking about how it has been a busy year for our Beaver Scouts.

Back in April so many of you joined on District Camp at Bibby's Farm. There was time spent on the water, grass sledged, investigated a cave bus, sang around a campfire and so much more! It was a perfect weekend of sun, fresh air and fun as well as learning some new scouting skills.

In May we gave Beavers an opportunity to perform at the George Schofield Competition – we made our own props and bravely sang in front of a panel of judges! What a fantastic array of talent we have in our Colonies. Well done to those who took part and congratulations to 57th Blackpool.

In June, I was delighted to see some colonies at the County Beaver Event – Puddle and Waddle at Waddecar Campsite. Another jam-packed fun day in the sun, that involved a lot of plastic ducks, water, kayaks! Back in October it was a delight to see the many Beavers who were performing at The Grand Theatre in Blackpool Gang Show!

It was incredible to see so many colonies at our Evening Gazette Competition, we used recycling junk to design our own Bonfire and Firework model. Thank you to those who took part and well done to the 7th Blackpool.

December brought 'Carols around the Campfire' a chance to join other members of Blackpool Scouts. A huge thanks for all the

generous donations that we were able to give to local charities.

2023 has already brought colony visits to the Fire Station and the Jewish Reformed Synagogue, sleepovers, visitor and badge nights. I have been delighted to see and hear the badge work you have been focussing on this year.

It was amazing to see you at Mowbreck Campsite with Cubs, focussing on Scouting skills. My thanks to the Cub District Team for organising this event. We hosted a joint Squirrel and Beaver event with a Birthday Party for Baden Powell for Founders Day. I am looking forward to continuing to work with our Squirrels and Cubs in the future.

I have proudly congratulated many Beavers on achieving the Chief Scout Bronze Award, the highest award you can earn as a Beaver. This also meant we had to say goodbye to lots of young people who moved onto Cubs.

We have so much more planned and still to do! So, watch this space!

Finally, for all the above to take place a great deal of planning, commitment, enthusiasm and time is required. Our young people are fortunate to have such amazing leaders and supporters. I'm reliant on such a supportive Leadership Team. A special thank you must go to my own District Team; John, Sarah, Ann, Irene and Anastasia. I would also like to thank the wider District Team who we are fortunate to have as support at our events, as well as without you simply none of this would be possible.

Emma Hornby

Assistant District Commissioner
(Beaver Scouts)





The focus has been ensuring that all our Cub Scouts have the best chance of earning the Chief Scout Silver award.

Our final event of last year was the Commissioners Flag held at Blackpool Zoo with the theme of environmental conservation and the winners on the day were 5th Blackpool. 1st Bispham was also awarded Pack of the Year!

In summer, Cubs attended a Viking Experience at Red Rose. In September, 2 Cub Packs represented the District at County Challenge Day. Congratulations to 5th Blackpool for winning the event and 1st Bispham runners up.

A Chief Scout Silver presentation in October was attended by the Mayor where 52 young people were given the highest award in Cubs. Then it was our long-awaited London trip, postponed from 2020. 27 Cubs, 6 Scouts, 8 Leaders and 8 Network visited the capital city to explore and visit all the sights. A fantastic time!

November, suggested by our leaders, a pioneer badge activity evening developing the skills for both our young people and our volunteers. 153 achieved the badge. The focus of 2022 was the 105 badges in which all the hard work was celebrated with a party at Fylde HQ in December.

2023. New Year. New events. A board games night in January gave the chance to challenge friends, and make new friends. An event at Ski Rossendale was offered by the County and enjoyed by 50 members.

February, Founders Day trip to Liverpool World Museum, with 167 of us visiting for the day. The Beaver Cub link event happened in March with just under 100 young people taking part in outdoor activities at Mowbreck, ticking off elements of their top awards.

A plan on hold from 2020 was to take part in the Big Sleepout organised by The Streetlife Trust. In March, it happened, and 14 brave Cub Scouts and 6 Leaders raised over £1,200 for the charity by making themselves a bed out of cardboard and facing the elements outdoors for an evening.

We celebrated St George's Day in April. May was the Jack Lamb competition and 2 JOTT events in a new location – the Fylde Arboretum. Over 460 members joined in with this event, from raft building to fire lighting. In June, 12 Cubs attended the County Sixers and Seconders weekend at Bibby's Farm.

The District team also visit packs, welcoming new leaders alongside other commitments. I am grateful to Gordon, Haydn, Nichola, Sophie and Terry for all they do.

My favourite part of my role is visiting packs. It is a pleasure to see the programmes provided to our young people, helping them to earn badges and top awards. My thanks to all our volunteers who provide such great opportunities for our young people.

My thanks to Matt and his District team, Ted and County Cub team

for all their support. We look forward to another busy year!

Stephen Chow

Assistant District Commissioner
(Cub Scouts)





So, where to start for the Scout section report... let me set the scene!

I am at Mowbreck attending the Scouts Patrol Leaders (PLs) & Assistant Patrol Leaders (APLs) weekend, the sun is shining and I can hear the voices of Scouts enjoying themselves learning new skills and making friends. What a perfect place to take 5 minutes to reflect upon the last 12 months and what the Scout section has achieved.

We have been impressed by the culinary skills of the teams who entered the Cooking Competition that was held in November 2022. The judges had difficult choices to make as the standard of cooking was so good with the 37th Blackpool taking first place.

The PLs forums have made a return and have been well attended. PLs & APLs have engaged in the sessions sharing ideas with the Scout District team of activities and events that they would like to attend and see organised. Hence the reason I am sat at Mowbreck as they wanted to camp together #TheySayWeDo. These forums will continue throughout the forthcoming year.

The highlight of the year for me is County Rally 2022! We increased numbers from Blackpool Scout District with 157 attendees and hope to better that number next year. We took the bold decision to central cater this year, yes there was resistance, there was concern and worry but what a success it ended up being. The game changer was the use of the

camp cooker from 44th Blackpool, thanks to them! Again we were lucky with the weather, wall to wall sunshine all weekend.

Six teams have entered the Scout Cars which is being held in Barnsley. As I write this the event hasn't taken place but will have by the time you are reading this, so catch up with Dobbie or Rhona from the 57th our Scout Car organisers to get race highlights.

The team and I have had the pleasure of visiting groups to award Chief Scout Gold (CSG) awards to Scouts who have completed all of their badge requirements. I have also had the pleasure of attending two CSG presentations that County have organised, and I look forward to attending more in the future.

The Scout District team will be working on the activities and events for the next 12 months. We intend to share the details as soon as we can.

I would like to thank the team and all of our Scout leaders who have given their time over the last 12 months to bring Scouting activities to all our young people.

Without our Scout leaders volunteering their time we would not be able to enhance and develop our young people, so many thanks for all you do.

Emma Harrison

Assistant District Commissioner (Scouts)



EXPLORERS

It's been another busy year in the Explorer section with events being put back on the calendar after the break due to Covid.

The past year has seen Explorers travelling near and far on County trips, from the fields of Westmorland showground for Red Rose, on to the mountains of Scotland for Snow & Ice, over the sea to the Swiss Alps and even Bangladesh!

As a district we have also taken part in activities, the fun and games of Explorer County Camp and hosted our own Winter Camp in the Lakes. We have entered competitions which have challenged the Explorers on their navigation and teamwork skills such as Operation Moonlight, the County run Mountain Activity Challenge (MAC) in which we came 3rd overall and the Who Dare Wins link event with the Scout section.

The Explorer Scout Young Leader section was relaunched with a fantastically attended Module A training. We have signed off a ESYL belt, awarded Platinum & Diamond awards and continue to teach the skills the Explorers need to plan and carry out their expeditions.

I would like to thank the Explorer leaders for their help and support to deliver a varied and adventurous programme and look forward to the events we are planning for the second half of the year and in to summer 2024.

Joanna Hacking
District Explorer Scout
Commissioner



network

Looking back over the last 12 months we've done a lot!

Bike rides, Karate session, pancake night, Pleasure Beach, climbing, dog hikes, trip to London with the Cub team, service work, linked nights with Explorers, a hosted county Splash Day, District run Explorer Belt and so much more!

Over the period we've had 10 top awards for our Network members completing their Explorer Belt, Duke of Edinburgh Gold, and Scouts of the World Award (SOWA). This year we'll be working hard to beat that. With members signed up to the County Explorer Belt, and others well on their way with their SOWA, Kings Scout Award and DofE award.

We've had new people join the movement and others re-join due to friendships they made when they were in the younger sections. This has been great as we've all made new friends and I'm sure we've all learnt something new.

Over the next 12 months, as ever there is a busy county calendar with events almost monthly. As a district we also meet weekly. If you know somebody 18-25 who would like to get involved, then please ask them to contact me – netcom@blackpoolscouts.org.uk

None of this year's success would be possible if it wasn't for the

many people who have assisted along the way and the Network members that turn up, plan & run the meetings. Special mention to 5th Blackpool for allowing us to use the Hut as our main meeting place.

It has been great pleasure to be the Network Commissioner over the last 12 months. Here's to the next 12, another year where we can continue to expand our achievements and celebrate our successes!

Liam Chow

Scout Network Commissioner

Mowbreck Scout Campsite

Mowbreck has gone from strength to strength over this last season with the highest number of bookings in over 10 years, with Groups from all over the County coming and staying. We have also opened the site up to a couple of school now using it as an outdoor area and for their forest schools.

Mowbreck is improving week by week with the newly refurbished toilet block and galley kitchen both of which have hot water. We have added a couple of adventurous activities to the site. Firstly, the new archery range which has been used by all sections including our Squirrels and secondly, we also have tomahawk throwing.

We also did two working days throughout the season pruning trees, laying wood chip and painting of the toilets and containers to name a few. The future of Mowbreck is also looking very prosperous with the plans to put an all-purpose dry shelter on the field with a new campfire area.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank all our meet and greet team, activity instructors and everyone else who has either helped or visited the site over the past 12 month as without them we wouldn't have a campsite.

Andy and Stephen
Mowbreck Managers



Blackpool Gang Show

Putting on the 2022 60th Anniversary show was great fun and being joined by over 30 past cast members made it extra special. We had a member from every show from the past 60 years either on stage or in the audience on the Saturday shows to help us celebrate. Thank you!

We saw a slight dip in audience numbers, with only 1,083 seat tickets sold. We were extremely fortunate in 2022 as we received donations from outside organisations & individual people - our thanks go to all these organisations and people for their generosity.

What does 2023 bring us, well over 100 have signed on to be in the cast giving us some logistical challenges to overcome, bring it on! The show is set, rehearsals are underway, wardrobe are measuring, producers are working out routines, theatre is booked, we are a go!

Join us from 25-28 October 2023 at The Grand Theatre!

Steve and Darrell
Gang Show Leadership Team

Scout Active Support Unit

We look forward with a new slant on our story of Scouting and see where SASU fits in.

We held an afternoon tea at Stanley Park Café which was a great success. It was at this time that Gordon Clarke, our treasurer, decided to stand down after many years.

2023 is the year of the next World Scout Jamboree and 4 young people from Blackpool will be there in Korea being our Scout Ambassadors. We hope that Aniela, Jamie, Leijla and Josh have a journey to remember.

The Jamboree "Tune-a-thon" at Anchorsholme Park raised over £1000 for the Jamboree fund and was supported by SASU as well as two local choirs, Coasters and Trinitas.

One of our members, Michael Heed received his 50 year Long Service Decoration so well done Mike!

Remembrance Day came and we were blessed with fine weather a great turn out for SASU.

"Carols by the Campfire" put a new and different slant on our usual Carol Service, but it was very well attended. SASU provided the refreshments.

Our late, late Lunch was held at Cleveleys Masonic Hall and we enjoyed a beautiful lunch there.

The St George's Day Dinner Dance was back at The Grand Hotel in April. A new organising team set about the future of this event.

The very first Squirrel and Beaver Event took Place at Unity Academy and SASU helped on several bases.

Due to an excess of £500 in our funds, we were able to provide each group with 13 sets of badges containing a World, County and District badge

We welcome our new treasurer Brenda Shaw and we wish her well in her new role

So, as I finish, we look towards the new 2025 Plan for the District and all it will bring. Don't forget our motto is Be Prepared!

Irene Wheatley
Scout Active Support Unit
Manager



Our finances

Receipts and Payments account

For the year ending 31st March 2023

	2022-2023	2021-2022
	£	£
Receipts		
AGM/DC Retirement	1214	0
Awards Evening	0	952
Badge Receipts	5788	1523
Dinner Dance	7622	692
District Camp	15180	3775
Donations	251	3296
Grants	0	500
Greathead (DC)	500	0
Interest and dividends received	3247	396
International	58	0
Jamboree	6085	0
Loan Repayments	0	800
Membership fees	27047	26559
Miscellaneous	404	290
Network Neckers	68	0
Paul Marshall Legacy	853411	0
Recruitment/Media	36	0
Stakeholder Lunch	100	0
Transfer from Mowbreck (Raynor)	0	3000
	921009	41782
Section Income		
Beaver Scout section income	553	0
Cub Scout section income	18169	8108
Explorer Scout section income	13964	8155
Gang Show income	18688	1073
Mowbreck Beer Festival income	0	0
Mowbreck income	6161	16091
SASU income	3	256
Scout Section Income	2457	683
Service Team Income	0	0
	59996	34366
Total Receipts	981005	76148

Receipts and Payments account (continued)

For the year ending 31st March 2023

	2022-2023	2021-2022
	£	£
Payments		
AGM/DC Retirement	1590	0
Awards Evening	58	1431
Badge Payments*	5230	3993
Dinner Dance costs	5246	388
District Camp	13869	1435
District Expenses	2356	1267
Eqjuipment	0	919
Greathead (DC)	490	0
Insurances	854	854
International	800	0
Jamboree	8300	63
Membership Fees	48746	19382
Miscelleneous	401	290
Network Neckers	387	0
Recruitment/Media	1220	753
Stakeholder Lunch	137	0
Storage costs	0	320
Training	345	668
Transfer to Mowbreck (Rayner)	0	3321
Welfare	230	0
Youth Commissioner	52	0
	90310	35083
Section Costs		
Beaver Scout section costs	1168	344
Cub Scout section costs	21170	4173
Explorer Scout section costs	14174	8868
Gang Show costs	18365	1429
Mowbreck Beer Festival costs	0	0
Mowbreck costs	4134	9348
SASU costs	231	126
Scout Section costs	2707	53
Service Team costs	0	0
	61950	24341
Total Payments	152260	59424
Net Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	828745	16724

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

For the year ending 31st March 2023

	2022-2023		2021-2022	
	£	£	£	£
Assets				
Monetary balances (cash and bank)		952092		123378
Investment assets				
Scout short term investment fund	26851		26851	
Rayner funds: 668.6 units in the Charities Office				
Investment Fund at Valuation	12572		13020	
		39423		39871
		991515		163248
Non-monetary assets				
Mowbreck training centre at cost	30000		30000	
Stock of badges at cost	4840		5676	
District Equipment	19091		630	
		53931		36306
		1045446		199554
		1045446		199554
Liabilities				
Advance payments		954		26038
		1044492		173517
Represented by				
Reserves brought forward		177868		142365
Net surplus/(deficit) for the year		828745		16724
Increase/(reduction) in value of investment funds		-448		1034
Increase/(reduction) in value of non monetary assets		17625		31151
Increase/(reduction) in loans		0		-800
Less increase/(reduction) in liabilities		-25084		12606
Reserves carried forward		1048874		177868

Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of Blackpool District Scout Council

I report on the accounts of the District for the year ending 31st March 2023 which are set out on pages 24 to 29.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The District's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission
- under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiners report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the District and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiners statement

In connection with my examination, no other matter has come to my attention:

- which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material aspect the requirement to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 act have not been met; or
- which in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Mike Heed

6 Hexham Ave
Thornton
Cleveleys
FY5 2NP

Signed



Date 18.05.2023

Notes to the Accounts

For the year ending 31st March 2023

Note 1: Cash at bank and in hand

	2022-2023	2021-2022
Exec accounts	£	£
CAF bank current account	1989	26868
CAF bank gold account	891249	35671
	893238	62539
Section Accounts		
Beavers	1089	1704
Beer Festival	5059	5059
Cubs	4236	7237
Explorers	2154	2482
Gang Show	12760	12505
Mowbreck	30927	28898
SASU	1514	1586
Scout Car Races	310	309
Scouts	375	630
Service Team	429	429
	58853	60839
Total	952092	123378

Notes to the Accounts (continued)

For the year ending 31st March 2023

Note 2: Analysis of Reserves

	2022-2023	2021-2022
	£	£
Total Reserves Less:	1048874	177868
Non-monetary assets + loans and liabilities	54885	62344
Restricted Funds		
Rayner Bequest	12527	13020
Butterworth Bequest	12873	12873
Designated Funds		
Beer Festival	5059	5059
District Camp	3000	0
Explorers	2154	2482
Gang Show	12760	12505
Greathead Fund	10	0
International	58	4466
Jamboree	3451	0
Membership Fees	30000	30000
Mowbreck	30927	28898
Recruitment/Media	0	247
Paul Marshall Legacy	853411	0
SASU	1514	1586
Scout Car Races	310	309
Service Team	429	429
Youth Commissioner Fund	36	88
Free Reserves	25470	3562

Reserves Policy

The District mainly raises its running costs from its members and has limited capacity for other fund raising, therefore the trustees exercise a prudent approach to their free reserves policy: the trustees will initiate additional fund raising when free reserves fall to below the equivalent of nine months annual costs measured against the latest Executive Income and Expenditure account or the forward budget plan.

Donations

We gratefully acknowledge the following generous contributors to our fund raising this year: Peter Greathead, Ian Gledhill, the estate of Paul Marshall, in memory of Geoff Clayton, in memory of Alan Brogden. We also continue to benefit from the legacies of Mrs Patricia Butterworth and F G Rayner.

Our membership

Census results for the year ending 31 January 2023

	Male	Female	Self-identify	Prefer not to say	Total
Youth membership					
Squirrel Scouts	30	13	0	0	43
Beaver Scouts	145	47	0	0	192
Cub Scouts	153	87	0	0	240
Scouts	119	75	1	0	195
Explorer Scouts (including Young Leaders)	33	23	0	0	56
Network members	9	22	0	0	31
	489	267	1	0	757
Adult membership (listing the main role category for each adult volunteer)					
Section leadership team members	70	94	0	0	164
Plus Young Leaders*	13	16	0	0	29
Manager roles	9	11	0	0	20
Governance roles	20	15	0	0	35
Support roles	48	35	0	0	83
	147	155	0	0	302
Total membership	636	422	1	0	1059

*ESYL totals are not included in the overall totals as they are already included in Explorer Scout totals.

Our District comprises

Census results for the year ending 31 January 2023

Squirrel Scout Dreys	3
Beaver Scout Colonies	18
Cub Scout Packs	19
Scout Troops	18
Explorer Scout Units (including YL Units)	5
Active Support Units	5
Young Leader Units	1
Groups	18

Our board of trustees

Governance structure and executive committee membership - 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

Ex-Officio

District Commissioner	Victoria DaSilva**
	Matthew Hornby***
District Chair	Katherine O'Connor**
	Chris Hardy****
District Secretary	Elizabeth Abbott
District Treasurer	Janet Hardy
District Explorer Scout Commissioner	Joanna Hacking
District Scout Network Commissioner	Liam Chow
District Youth Commissioner	Gabrielle Howson-Tax

Nominated

Geoff Platt**
Christine Fitton**
Reid Skipper**
Joan Swan
Lesley Meddings
Andy Mitchell

Elected

Andy Inglis
Emma Harrision
Robert Ward
Heather Clegg**
Stewart Swan**
Philip Wheatley*
Diane Parkinson*

*Until July 2023

**Until July 2022

***From July 2022

****From January 2023

Our Scout ambassadors

Our incredible team of ambassadors. They have one thing in common: to share far and wide how Scouts is helping young people gain skills for life.

- **Steve Royle**, Actor, Comedian & Radio Presenter
- **Nicola Thorp**, Actor, Broadcaster & Journalist
- **Hayley Kay**, Radio Presenter
- **Ged Mills**, Radio Presenter
- **Paul Maynard MP**, Member of Parliament for Blackpool North & Cleveleys
- **Gordon Marsden**, Blackpool Labour, former Member of Parliament

Roll of honour

Congratulations to all who have been honoured with awards. It's a privilege to present Wood Badges, Long Service and Good Service awards to our volunteers. Our congratulations to all recognised in the St. George's Day awards for their contribution, dedication and loyalty to Scouting in Blackpool.

2022

Irene Wheatley - Silver Wolf

This award is the unrestricted gift of the Chief Scout. Awarded for service of exceptional nature.

Philip Wheatley - Silver Wolf

This award is the unrestricted gift of the Chief Scout. Awarded for service of exceptional nature.

Darrell Shuck - Silver Acorn

20 years' service, which is specially distinguished and appreciably better than outstanding.

Stephen Smith - Silver Acorn

20 years' service, which is specially distinguished and appreciably better than outstanding.

2023

Paul Harris - Silver Acorn

20 years' service, which is specially distinguished and appreciably better than outstanding.

Andrew Barrett - Award for Merit. Awarded for outstanding service.

Carol Barrett - Award for Merit. Awarded for outstanding service.

Amanda Hayden - Award for Merit. Awarded for outstanding service.

Adamene Stubbs - Award for Merit. Awarded for outstanding service.

Michael Fish - Award for Merit. Awarded for outstanding service.

Gone home

Some of our members have gone home this year and we say goodbye to these much-loved members and supporters.

- William Broadley
- Muriel Turner
- David Cooke
- David Allen (Daffy)
- Michael Loomes
- Marjorie Wiseman

Our thanks

Blackpool Scouts would like to thank all its volunteers and supporters for their commitment and contributions over the last year. We look forward to another year of making a positive contribution and impact on society.

**We're the largest
volunteer led
mixed youth
organisation in
the UK**





blackpoolscouts.org.uk
#SkillsForLife



Blackpool Scouts Registered Charity number 521534

BLACKPOOL DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

England & Wales - Charity number 521534

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022

Charity name: Blackpool District Scout Council
Charity registration number: 521534

The Trustees of the Charity present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Constitution

Blackpool District Scout Council ("BDSC") is registered as a Charity in England number 521534. The date of registration is 8 November 1966. The rules of the Charity are stipulated by the Policy, Organisation and Rules ("POR") of The Scout Association, itself a Charity registered in England (No. 306101) and incorporated by a Royal Charter dated 4 January 1912. There is a formal Constitution of Blackpool District Scout Council.

Objectives and Activities

Objectives - The aim of BDSC is that of The Scout Association; the purpose of Scouting is to contribute to the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potential; as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities. These benefits are available to all young people and are therefore considered to be a public benefit under Section 4 of the Charities Act 2011.

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

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives.

The charity's main objective is to 'actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to

society'. Our goal is to continue to grow, become more inclusive, to be shaped by young people and to make a bigger impact in our communities.

The Trustees value the contribution made to the Charity by its volunteers and considers that good communications and relationships with its people and its members to be very important and makes relevant information available to all. The success of the Charity can only be put down to its people, uniformed and non-uniformed leaders, supporters and of course its young people.

Activities - The work of the District has been challenging as during the last financial year we were still experiencing the effects of the pandemic where many of the Scout Groups who had endeavoured to meet face-to-face, also had to meet virtually to undertake a variety of activities and meetings, when it became evident that the Omicron variant was circulating throughout the population. During this challenging period we have continued to provide better futures for more of our young people which continues to be exciting and relevant and allows them to enjoy the "Everyday Adventure" that Scouting brings.

We will continue to focus on:

- providing a fun, enjoyable, high quality programme for our members.
- ensuring that Scouting is clearly understood, more visible, trusted, respected and widely seen as playing a role in today's society.
- having more well trained, better supported and motivated adult volunteers
- providing good quality, practical locations to support our Scouting programme

Blackpool is really fortunate in having committed and passionate volunteers in our District who are selfless in providing their skills, experience and free time to benefit young people who are involved in Scouting. We thank them for their valuable support to providing the best Scouting experience for our young people. In addition, to the Leaders who work regularly with young people, we also have people who work "behind the scenes" so we would like to pay tribute to all of our dedicated volunteers for their work on behalf of young people in Blackpool.

We haven't been able to experience the excitement of utilising Mowbreck training campsite as much as possible, however, we are delighted that due to a donation from Blackpool District, development activities have happened at the site and following the kindness and generosity of an anonymous donor we have been able to improve the galley, undertaking necessary health and safety requirements. We have been fortunate in receiving Government grants whilst the site has been in lockdown, which has enabled us to refurbish the toilet block and providing much needed improvements to the facilities at the site. During the year we have also benefitted from the donation provided by Michael Loomes, from his brother's estate. In line with their wishes we have made improvements to the site entrance including a new retaining feature wall. We thank them for their continued support through financial donations. All of this work has been undertaken to benefit the young people who utilise the site from both within and

external to Scouting. Thanks to the new Mowbreck team and all the volunteers who have provided valuable support to upgrade the facilities at the site.

Training has continued virtually for all our volunteers, with the mandatory safety and safeguarding skills. The leaders of our young people have been undertaking training online to ensure they have the necessary skills to work with young people, including First Aid. For all who have been involved in the commissioning and administration of training activities we would like to thank you for ensuring that our Leaders are

BDSC are also grateful for a number of contributions and kind bequests which will be used for the good of the District over the coming year.

Social investments - Whilst no actual monetary financial investment has been made to non-scouting projects, the trustees would like to point out that the charity supports all young people, not just those in Scouting: and Mowbreck is used by a wide range of organisations which help and encourage young people from all sorts of backgrounds.

BDSC continues to adopt the clear Equal Opportunities Policy of The Scout Association in that no young person or person volunteering their service shall receive less favourable treatment on the basis of, nor suffer disadvantage by reason of: - ethnicity - gender - age - sexual orientation - additional needs - nationality - religion. BDSC continues to embrace the objectives set down in the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.

Personnel - We would like to pay tribute to elected and nominated officers to the Blackpool District Scout Council Executive Committee who have advised that they are standing down, namely Christine Fitton BEM JP, Geoff Platt and Reid Skipper. We would like to thank the District Commissioner, Victoria DaSilva, Stewart Swan and Heather Clegg for their counsel at Executive Committees. All of whom have provided extensive experience and counsel to guide the decisions at Executive Committee and we would like to thank them.

Financial Review

District income in the past has been garnered from a small levy on top of the annual Membership fee and the annual St George's Day Dinner Dance. Due to the ongoing pandemic we have not had any income into the District, so have had to dip into our reserves and transfer funds into the accounts.

Any income received is normally utilised in the many charitable activities supporting the young people in annual events such as the Swimming Gala, Carol Service and St Georges Day events, however, many of the major events have been curtailed due to the pandemic.

We also provide grant funding to Scout members to enable them to attend various international visits and each year allocate a sum in the accounts to meet future commitments to ensure that we can support young people on the International Jamboree and help with other International visits.

Our investments and the income they generate are included in the financial report. With interest rates at an all-time historic low and dividend yields likely to remain suppressed for some time BDSC will keep the investments under review.

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- BDSC is registered with HMRC for Gift Aid.
- The charity raises funds from the public but does not work with professional fundraisers or commercial participators.
- The charity does not have trading facilities.
- No trustees receive any remuneration, payments or benefits from the charity.
- The charity owns a training campsite and the land is freehold. It is not depreciated.
- The Trustees ensure that the reserves are sufficient, reviewed regularly and are in line with Charity Commission recommendations. These reserves are at a low figure due to reduction in income due to the pandemic and will be reviewed in September 2021 to ensure that reserves are returned to their pre-Pandemic levels.
- Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.
- Restricted funds can only be used for particular purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Structure, Governance and Management

Organisational structure

The management of Operational Scouting within Blackpool is vested in the District Commissioner, supported by the District Team comprising the Deputy District Commissioners, Assistant District Commissioners, Group Scout Leaders, Adult and Young Leaders.

The management of the business of Blackpool District Scout Council is vested in the Trustees of the Charity who make up the District Executive who consist of-

Ex-officio Members

- District Chair, nominated annually by the DC, at the AGM.
- District President
- District Commissioner
- District Youth Commissioner
- District Scout Network Commissioner
- District Explorer Scout Commissioner.
- District Treasurer, elected at each District AGM
- District Secretary, elected at each District AGM

Nominated members: -

- Persons nominated annually by the District Commissioner, in consultation with the District Chair, and approved by the District AGM

Elected members: -

- Six elected by the members of the Scout Council, such that each serves a maximum of two years (with three retiring each year having completed their term of office). NB - we have only had two people put their names forward currently so have been unable to appoint more elected members.

Co-opted members: -

- Additionally, the Executive Committee has powers to co-opt additional members (who will have particular skills needed).

The District Executive is accountable to the Blackpool District Scout Council which is established in accordance with the Scout Association's POR and meets annually at the AGM.

The District Executive meets at least four times a year. Reports are presented from key representatives to highlight key items of business and when required, Executive approval.

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)
ExOfficio	
Vacant	District President
Victoria DaSilva MBE	District Commissioner
Katherine O'Connor MBE	District Chair
Elizabeth Abbott	District Secretary
Janet Hardy	District Treasurer
Ellie Harrison	District Youth Commissioner
Gabrielle Howson Tax	District Youth Commissioner
Liam Chow	District Network Advisor
Joanna Hacking	District Explorer Scout Commissioner
Elected	
Philip Wheatley	Joint SASU Manager
Diane Parkinson	District Training Administrator
Stewart Swan (appointed July 2019) **	Former ADC Scouts and District Advisor
Heather Clegg (appointed July 2019) **	Assistant Beaver Leader - 45 th Bpl
Nominated	
Reid Skipper	District Adviser
Joan Swan	Deputy District Commissioner
Steve Williamson (deceased)	District Advisor
Christine Fitton BEM JP	Vice President
Geoff Platt	Vice President

** Stepped down at AGM 2022

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature: **Katherine O'Connor Katherine O'Connor**

Full name: Katherine O'Connor

Position: Chair

Date: 1 July 2022

Signature: **Victoria DaSilva Victoria DaSilva**

Full name: Victoria DaSilva

Position: District Commissioner

Date: 01.07.2022

Follow our Adventure

Website: www.blackpoolscouts.org.uk

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Twitter: <https://twitter.com/BlackpoolScouts>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/BlackpoolScouts/>

You Tube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/BlackpoolScouts>

Email: info@blackpoolscouts.org.uk



**Blackpool District Scout Council
Receipts and Payments account
Year Ending 31st March 2022**

2022

	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
<u>Receipts</u>			
Membership fees		26559	
Interest and dividends received		396	
Donations		3296	
Grants		500	
Dinner Dance		692	
Loan Repayments		800	
Swimming Gala		0	
District Camp		3775	
Badge Receipts		1523	
Awards Evening		952	
Transfer from Mowbreck (Raynor)		3000	
Miscellaneous		290	
		<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black;"/>	
		41782	
<u>Section Income</u>			
Gang Show income		1073	
Beaver scout section income		0	
Cub scout section income		8108	
Scout Section Income		683	
Explorer scout section income		8155	
Mowbreck income		16091	
Mowbreck Beer Festival income		0	
SASU income		256	
Service Team Income		0	
		<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black;"/>	
		34366	
		<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black;"/>	
Total Receipts		76148	

**Blackpool District Scout Council
Receipts and Payments account
Year Ending 31st March 2022**

2022

£

Payments

Membership Fees	19382
Dinner Dance costs	388
Insurances	854
Jamboree/Internationals	63
Badge Payments*	3993
St Georges Day/Founders Day	0
Development	0
District Camp	1435
Training	668
AGM/Carol Service	0
District Expenses	1267
Storage costs	320
Swimming Gala	0
Media	753
Equipment	919
Transfer to Mowbreck (Raynor)	3321
Miscellaneous	290
Awards Evening	1431

35083

Section Costs

Gang Show costs	1429
Beaver scout section costs	344
Cub scout section costs	4173
Scout Section costs	53
Explorer scout section costs	8868
SASU costs	126
Mowbreck costs	9348
Mowbreck Beer Festival costs	0
Service Team costs	0

24341

Total Payments

59424

<u>Net Surplus/(Deficit)for the year</u>	16724
Less Advance 57th receipts	0
Plus Advance 57th payments	0
Actual Net/Surplus(Deficit) for year	16724

**Blackpool District Scout Council
Statement of Assets and Liabilities
Year Ending 31st March 2022**

	<u>2022</u>	
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
<u>Assets</u>		
Monetary balances (cash and bank)		123430
<u>Investment assets</u>		
Scout short term investment fund	26851	26851
Rayner funds: 668.6 units in the Charities Office		
Investment Fund at Valuation	<u>13020</u>	<u>11986</u>
		39871
		<u>163301</u>
<u>Non-monetary assets</u>		
Mowbreck training centre at cost	30000	883
Stock of badges at cost	5676	3642
Office Equipment	610	610
Trophies	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>
		36296
		<u>199597</u>
<u>Loans</u>		
To groups/individuals		<u>0</u>
		199597
<u>Liabilities</u>		
Advance payments		26038
		<u>173560</u>
<u>Represented by</u>		
Reserves brought forward		142365
Net surplus/(deficit) for the year		16724
Increase/(reduction) in value of investment funds		1034
Increase/(reduction) in value of non monetary assets		31151

increase/(reduction) in loans	-800
Less increase/(reduction) in liabilities	12606
<u>Reserves carried forward</u>	<u>177869</u>

Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of the Blackpool District Scout Council

I report on the accounts of the district for the year ending 31st March 2022 which are set out on page

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The districts trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- 1 examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 act
- 2 to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 act; and
- 3 to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiners report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the District and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures used do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiners statement

In connection with my examination, no other matter has come to my attention:

- a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material aspect the requirements of the 2011 act have not been met; or
- b) which in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Mike Heed
6 Hexham Ave
Thornton Cleveleys
FY5 2NP

Signed:



Date:

13.5.22

Blackpool District Scout Council
Notes to the Accounts
Year Ending 31st March 2022

Note 1

Cash at bank and in hand

	2022	2021
Exec accounts	£	£
Caf bank current account	26868	16711
Caf bank gold account	35671	39129
	<u>62539</u>	<u>55839</u>
Section Accounts		
Explorers	2482	3205
Mowbreck	28898	22155
Beer Festival	5059	5059
Gang Show	12505	12861
Cubs	7237	3302
Beavers	1704	2048
Scouts	683	476
SASU	1586	1456
Service Team	429	429
Scout Car Races	309	0
	<u>60892</u>	<u>50991</u>
Total	<u>123430</u>	<u>106831</u>

Blackpool District Scout Council
Notes to the Accounts continued
Year Ending 31st March 2022

Note 2

Analysis of Reserves

	2022	2021
Total Reserves	177869	142365
less:		
Non monetary assets+ loans and liabilities	62334	19377
<u>Restricted Funds</u>		
Rayner Bequest	13020	14950
Butterworth Bequest	12873	15378
<u>Designated Funds</u>		
Jamboree and Internationals	4466	5231
Mowbreck	28898	22155
Beer Festival	5059	5059
Explorers	2482	3205
Gang Show	12505	12862
SASU	1586	1456
Service Team	429	429
Recruitment/Media	247	0
Greathead Fund	0	2249
Youth Commissioner Fund	88	88
Scout Car Races	309	0
Membership Fees	30000	30000
Free Reserves	3573	9927

Reserves Policy

The District mainly raises its running costs from its members and has limited capacity for raising, therefore the trustees exercise a prudent approach to their free reserves policy: they will initiate additional fund raising when free reserves fall to below the equivalent of 2 years costs measured against the latest Executive Income and Expenditure account or the forward budget plan.

Donations

We gratefully acknowledge the following generous contributors to our fund raising this year: Peter Greathead, Michael Loomes, in memory of Paul Marshall, North Fylde Lodge, the Estate of Keith Gledhill, the RDC Foundation
 We also continue to benefit from the legacy of Mrs Patricia Butterworth and F G Rayner

2021

£

29886
512
650
0
25
550
0
0
3039
0
0
0

34662

395
0
57
0
1807
27475
0
241
0

29975

64637

2021

£

23809

292

811

1450

1930

74

15000

0

286

0

1359

0

602

0

0

0

0

0

45613

1183

90

3391

103

2731

0

7042

0

0

14540

60153

4484
2858
4230
5856

2021

£

106831

38836

145667

5145

150812

800

151612

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138180

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Independent examiners statement

In connection with my examination, no other matter has come to my attention:

- a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material aspect the accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the 2011 act have not been met; or
- b) which in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

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BLACKPOOL DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

England & Wales - Charity number 521534

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021

Charity name: Blackpool District Scout Council
Charity registration number: 521534

The Trustees of the Charity present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Constitution

Blackpool District Scout Council ("BDSC") is registered as a Charity in England number 521534. The date of registration is 8 November 1966. The rules of the Charity are stipulated by the Policy, Organisation and Rules ("POR") of The Scout Association, itself a Charity registered in England (No. 306101) and incorporated by a Royal Charter dated 4 January 1912. There is a formal Constitution of Blackpool District Scout Council which is in force.

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Activities - The work of the District has been challenging during the pandemic where many of the Scout Groups met virtually to undertake a variety of activities and meetings. Face to face meetings have been put on hold whilst we determine will continue to provide better futures for more of our young people which continues to be exciting and relevant and allows them to enjoy the "Everyday Adventure".

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- having more well trained, better supported and motivated adult volunteers
- providing good quality, practical locations to support our Scouting programme

We have some wonderful volunteers in Blackpool District and the time and commitment that our people provide so selflessly for the benefit of Scouting is very much appreciated. We have many volunteers who work directly with our young people and many who work behind the scenes, all of whom provide valuable support to ensure that the young people in Blackpool get the best Scouting experience possible.

When people think about Scouting, camping is one of the first things that come to mind. We haven't been able to experience outdoor activities including camping, but we hope to get back to this in the future. Similarly members have not been able to experience the various international experiences that are usually available to our young people and Leaders.

We have a comprehensive training scheme for all our members providing specific training for Beaver, Cub, Scout, Explorer Scout and Network leaders as well as training for all our trustees and adult volunteers. This has been operated using online courses which have been completed by many whilst we have been in lockdown. We also support our leaders with first aid training, safety and safeguarding for all volunteers that are in contact with young people.

The Mowbreck camp site forms a key part of the Charity's activities and financial support has been provided by District for development activities and ongoing maintenance of the site for the benefit of those young people both within and outside of Scouting. The site has benefitted from the toilet block refurbishment which has involved installing a new accessible toilet and improved washing facilities. Thanks to the new Mowbreck team and all the volunteers who have provided valuable support to upgrade the facilities at the site.

BDSC are also grateful for a number of contributions and kind bequests which will be used for the good of the District over the coming year.

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Councillor Lily Henderson MBE	District President (deceased)
Victoria DaSilva MBE	District Commissioner
Katherine O'Connor MBE	District Chair
Elizabeth Abbott	District Secretary
Janet Hardy	District Treasurer
Ellie Harrison	District Youth Commissioner
Gabrielle Howson Tax	District Youth Commissioner
Emily Jackson	District Network Advisor
Joanna Hacking	District Explorer Scout Commissioner
Elected	
Philip Mather (appointed 2018) *	PR and Publicity Manager
Irene Wheatley (appointed 2018) *	Scout Active Support Unit Manager
Peter Rumley (appointed 2018) *	ADC International
Ted Cooper (appointed 2018) *	ADC Cubs - ACC Cubs
Stewart Swan (appointed July 2019) **	ADC Scouts
Heather Clegg (appointed July 2019) **	Assistant Beaver Leader - 45 th Bpl
Nominated	
Reid Skipper	District Adviser
Joan Swan	Deputy District Commissioner
Steve Williamson	District Advisor

Christine Fitton BEM JP	Vice President
Geoff Platt	Vice President
Laurance Hancock	

* Extended to AGM 2021 due to Executive not meeting as frequently in 2020/21 due to the Pandemic

** Extended to AGM 2022 due to Executive not meeting as frequently in 2020/21 due to the Pandemic.

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature: **Katherine O'Connor**

Full name: Katherine O'Connor

Position: Chair

Date:

Signature: **Victoria DaSilva**

Full name: Victoria DaSilva

Position: District Commissioner

Date:

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Website: www.blackpoolscouts.org.uk

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BlackpoolScouts/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/BlackpoolScouts>
Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/BlackpoolScouts/>
You Tube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/BlackpoolScouts>
Email: info@blackpoolscouts.org.uk

**Blackpool District Scout Council
Receipts and Payments account
Year Ending 31st March 2021**

	<u>£</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>£</u>
<u>Receipts</u>						
Membership fees received					28453	
11						

Payments to County	<u>22596</u>	5857
	2988	
Membership fees	6	
Interest and dividends received	512	579
Donations	650	2740
Training	0	0
Badge Receipts	3039	3713
Dinner Dance	25	5453
Loan Repayments	550	780
Swimming Gala	0	133
District Camp	0	17325
Jamboree/International fund raising	0	617
Fundraising Bag	54	0
Pack	0	1659
Youth United Fund/Closure of 20th Bpl	0	1178
Sundry Income Advance	0	60
Membership/DDance	0	15684
57th Blackpool	<u>2858</u>	<u>1659</u>
	3757	
	4	57437
<u>Section Income</u>		
Gang Show	395	16102

income		
Beaver scout section income	0	233
Cub scout section income	57	14885
Scout Section Income	0	2148
Explorer scout section income	1807	8294
	<u>2747</u>	
Mowbreck income	5	2927
Mowbreck Beer Festival income	0	6386
SASU income	241	370
Service Team Income	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	2997	
	5	51344
	<u>6754</u>	
Total Receipts	<u><u>9</u></u>	<u><u>108781</u></u>

**Blackpool District Scout Council
Receipts and Payments account
Year Ending 31st March 2021**

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
<u>Payments</u>		
Membership Fees	2380	
13	9	

Dinner Dance costs	292	3180
Insurances	811	959
Jamboree/Internationals	1450	1958
Badge Payments*	1930	5110
St Georges Day/Founders Day	74	239
	1500	
Development	0	642
District Camp	0	19176
Training	286	3592
AGM/Carol Service	0	545
District Expenses	1359	1306
Storage costs	0	312
Swimming Gala	602	725
Bag Pack	0	1797
Web Storage/Hosting	0	426
Hardship Grant	0	85
Distribution of YUF Funds	0	1428
Donations	0	240
Advance Ddance	0	713
57th Blackpool	4230	2789
	<hr/> 4984	<hr/>
	3	45221
Section Costs		
Gang Show costs	1183	15923
Beaver scout section costs	90	484
Cub scout section costs	3391	16164
Scout Section	103	2191

costs		
Explorer scout section costs	2731	6435
SASU costs	0	134
Mowbreck costs	7042	4232
Mowbreck Beer Festival costs	0	6574
Service Team costs	0	0
	1454	
	0	
	<u>6438</u>	<u>52137</u>
Total Payments	3	97358
Net Surplus/(Deficit)for the year	<u>3166</u>	<u>11423</u>
Less Advance M'ship/Ddance/57th receipts	2858	17343
Plus Advance Ddance/57th payments	4230	3502
Actual Net/Surplus(Deficit) for year	4538	-2419

**Blackpool District Scout Council
Statement of Assets and Liabilities
Year Ending 31st March 2021**

	<u>2021</u>			<u>2020</u>	
	£	£	£	£	£
Assets					

Monetary balances (cash and bank)		1068		
		31		103704
<u>Investment assets</u>				
Scout short term investment fund	2685		26650	
	1			
Rayner funds: 668.6 units in the Charities Office Investment Fund at Valuation	1198			
	<u>6</u>		<u>9933</u>	
		3883		
		6		36583
		<u>1456</u>		
		67		140287
<u>Non-monetary assets</u>				
Mowbreck training centre at cost	883		883	
Stock of badges at cost	3642		3335	
Office Equipment	610		610	
Trophies	<u>10</u>		<u>10</u>	
		5145		4838
		<u>1508</u>		
		12		145126
<u>Loans</u>				
To groups/individuals		800		1596
		<u>1516</u>		
		12		146722
<u>Liabilities</u>				
Advance payments 21/22		1343		15047
Due to groups		2		1372
		<u>0</u>		
		1381		
		<u>80</u>		<u>130303</u>

Represented by

Reserves brought forward	1346	
Net surplus/(deficit) for the year	50	137612
Increase/(reduction) in value of investment funds	3166	11423
Increase/(reduction) in value of non monetary assets	2053	-222
increase/(reduction) in loans	307	-333
Less increase/(reduction) in liabilities	-796	-863
	<u>-2987</u>	<u>12967</u>
	1423	
	<u>65</u>	<u>134650</u>

Reserves carried forward**Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of the Blackpool District Scout Council**

I report on the accounts of the district for the year ending 31st March 2021 which are set out on pages 1 to 3

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The districts trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- 1 examine the accounts under section145 of the 2011 act
- 2 to follow the procedureslaid down in the general diections given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b)of the 2011 act; and
- 3 to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiners report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting recordskept by the Districtand a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual itms or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the

statement below.

Independent examiners

statement

In connection with my examination, no other matter has come to my attention:

- a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material aspect the requirement to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 act have not been met; or
- b) which in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Mike Heed
6 Hexham Ave
Thornton
Cleveleys
FY5 2NP

Signature: AMHeed
Date: 17.06.2021

**Blackpool District Scout Council
Notes to the Accounts
Year Ending 31st March 2021**

Note 1

Cash at bank and in hand

	2021	2020
Exec accounts	£	£
Caf bank current account	16711	14370
Caf bank gold account	39129	51144
Raynor account		2594
Jamboree Account		200
	<hr style="border-top: 1px solid black;"/>	<hr style="border-top: 1px solid black;"/>
	55839	68308
	<hr style="border-top: 3px double black;"/>	<hr style="border-top: 3px double black;"/>

**Section
Accounts**

Explore rs	3205	3899
Mowbreck	22155	1722
Beer Festival	5059	5059
Gang Show	12861	13718
Cubs	3302	6637
Beaver s	2048	2138
Scouts	476	580
SASU	1456	1215
Service Team	429	429
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	50991	35397
Total	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
	106831	103704

**Blackpool District Scout Council
Notes to the Accounts
continued
Year Ending 31st March 2021**

Note 2

Analysis of Reserves

	2021	2020
Total Reserves	142365	134650
less:		
Non monetary assets+ loans and liabilities	19377	22853
<u>Restricted Funds</u>		

Rayner Bequest	14950	12527
Butterworth Bequest	15378	15378
<u>Designated Funds</u>		
Jamboree and Internationals	5231	4681
Mowbreck	22155	1722
Beer Festival	5059	5059
Explore rs	3205	1811
Gang Show	12862	13718
SASU	1456	1215
Service Team	429	429
Future events	0	1265
Greathead Fund	2249	1749
Youth Commissioner Fund	88	88
Membership Fees	30000	30000
Free Reserves	9927	22155

Reserves Policy

The District mainly raises its running costs from its members and has limited capacity for other fund raising, therefore the trustees exercise a prudent approach to their free reserves policy: the trustees will initiate additional fund raising when free reserves fall to below the equivalent of 2 years annual costs measured against the latest Executive Income and Expenditure account or the forward budget plan.

Donations

We gratefully acknowledge the following generous contributors to our fund raising this year:
Peter Greathead, Michael Loomes, the estate of Keith Gledhill
We also continue to benefit from the legacy of Mrs Patricia Butterworth and F G Rayner