

## **Chair of the Trustees**

This has been my first complete year as Chair of Lincoln District Scout Trustees. I must admit, after reading all the reports I am totally amazed at the variety and diverse activities that have happened around our amazing Scout District.

Transformation – I know this is causing some worries among a few leaders and trustees, so let's do what we do best, keep talking to each other, share our experiences and knowledge and work together for the benefit of our youth members.

I would like to thank every single scouting adult, regardless of what your role is, (from the drink makers of the Squirrels meetings to the Lincoln leaders who led the Lincolnshire contingent to the world jamboree last July) for all the time you have given to the youth members of our District.

Pulling together is the only way we make everything work. THANK YOU.

Chris Jackson

## **D.L.V**

As we reflect on another remarkable year for Lincoln Scouts, we are filled with immense pride and gratitude for the positive impact our organisation continues to have on individuals and the community. The growth we have experienced is a testament to the enduring values and spirit of Scouting, which inspire young people and adult volunteers alike.

This year, we welcomed a significant number of new groups and sections into our district, including the enthusiastic addition of Squirrel Drays. These new members have brought fresh energy and perspectives, enriching our collective experience and broadening our reach within the community.

Scouting offers young people a unique opportunity to develop essential life skills, foster friendships, and build a strong sense of community. Our programs encourage personal growth, resilience, and a commitment to service, shaping individuals who are prepared to contribute positively to society. The dedication of our adult volunteers has been instrumental in supporting and mentoring our young Scouts, ensuring they have the guidance and encouragement needed to thrive.

Looking ahead, we are excited for what the next year holds in store. With continued growth and the unwavering support of our volunteers and community, we are poised to achieve even greater milestones. Together, we will continue to inspire and empower the next generation, fostering a legacy of leadership, kindness, and community spirit.

Thank you to everyone who has been a part of this journey. Your commitment and enthusiasm are the driving force behind our success, and we look forward to another year of Scouting excellence.

Yours in Scouting, Lee Evans District Lead Volunteer

## **D.D.L.V Adult Support**

This year has seen many new leaders and helper volunteer for Scouting, in many different roles.

I thank them for their help and support at groups and SASU units.

I also thank our new volunteers and our leaders and helpers for completing their training, thank you to the GLV who support our volunteers to gain the learning needed to make sure we are equipped with the knowledge and skills to help our young people gain skills for the future.

Since our last AGM we have given out 22 awards and we have 6 awards that we have to give out at this AGM, this doesn't include all the service awards.

Since I took on the role to heads awards we have given out 50 + awards.

Thank you everyone who took the time to nominate our valued volunteers.

It is also great to see so many of our young people gaining their top awards.

Thank you everyone for all you do for the young people, we have a thriving district and that is down to you our volunteers.

Stay safe Sandra, Nanna Badger

### **D.D.L.V Growth & Development**

We are a small team working hard behind the scenes with groups that need help and assistance. We are always looking for new volunteers to fill the gaps and provide key support to groups that want to open their doors to more young people and volunteers.

Throughout the past year, we have given presentations to parents and supporters from various groups. We've also helped open new groups and establish new sections within existing groups including a new SEN Group (17<sup>th</sup> Lincoln) at St Christophers School. Sometimes, we simply serve as a sounding board, empowering volunteers to advance their own groups, which is as it should be. Finding Group Volunteer Leads continues to be a challenging task, but we are constantly seeking opportunities and developing solutions.

Development doesn't need to be complicated. Short and simple plans are usually the most effective. It's all about teamwork and working to a volunteer's strengths. Developing new volunteers is important, and the retention of volunteers is equally important to the sustainability and growth of scouting. Groups thrive where young people and adults alike enjoy scouting. Most volunteers come from nurturing relationships with friends and relatives in and around the group.

Scouting has a rich history of engaging positively with the community and furthering reach is very much an extension of this. The benefits include recruitment, access to wider resources (funding, venues, volunteers) and reaching those who'll benefit most.

The upcoming year will involve exploring the opening of new and diverse groups and ensuring existing group compliance with Trustees. We are also aiming to raise the profile of Lincoln District in the local community through a variety of public events as we go through this transition.

If you require assistance or believe we can be of help to you, please contact us at [development@LincolnScouts.org.uk](mailto:development@LincolnScouts.org.uk).

## **D.D.L.V General Duties**

2023-24 has been another action packed year for Lincoln District, the Lincoln Leadership Team and all involved in Scouting in our area.

It all starts at the beginning of September with the annual Gilwell Reunion weekend. I've heard people say 'Scouts is all about the kids' but let me tell you – if it wasn't for adults there would be no Scouts.

Gilwell Park is a large camp site and adventure centre in East London and the spiritual home of Scouting in the UK since 1919. The Scout Association realises that whilst young people are important to a youth organisation, if there are no adults to run regular meetings, activities, camps & nights away, hikes or other events then there would be no Scout movement.

As such, they have been offering training week ends which are full of opportunity to learn new skills, make new friends, meet with old friends (hence the Reunion tag) and have the kind of fun that is usually reserved for the young people since 1921. They even have a bar or two these days!

If you haven't been to a Reunion weekend yet, they are held over the first weekend of September and I highly recommend trying one.

The attitude of thanking or rewarding volunteers has been taken on by Lincoln District more in the last couple of years than ever before. Awards are presented by the District Lead Volunteer, or sometimes a special guest, after nominations have been scrutinised by an awards committee. These include Length of Service Awards, Commendation Awards and Good Service Awards and are usually presented at an awards ceremony held somewhere special, such as in the meeting rooms at Lincoln Cathedral.

If you know anyone within Lincoln Scouting that you feel has gone above and beyond, please write a nomination and send it to [Awards1@LincolnScouts.org.uk](mailto:Awards1@LincolnScouts.org.uk). For more information on what awards there are and if your nominee qualifies please visit <https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/learning-development-and-awards/awards-and-recognition>.

But thanking volunteers doesn't have to be a grand gesture such as an award. A letter individually written to recognise someone's hard work and thank them for it works just as well. When was the last time you took the time to write a personal letter thanking someone for their time or service? I am delighted to have been part of the team who delivered an amazing Lost World Camp in May, but even more delighted to have received a letter from our DLV thanking me for my input. I'm sure the others who received similar letters feel the same.

I'd like to end by highlighting an event which will be held in our district at the end of September, and one which you might be able to use to thank not only your uniformed leaders but also your trustees and your trustee committee – a group of volunteers often overlooked for recognition.

Lincs Fest is a County run event but held in our district at Sudbrooke. It is over the weekend of 20-22 September this year and has similar aims as Gilwell Reunion. There will be workshops, training and fun and I think the perfect opportunity for you to organise a get-together of volunteers from your group and thank them for all they do.

Thank you to everyone to who gives up their time to help Scouting in Lincoln District. Lincoln's future leaders of industry are given a distinct advantage if they have been through Lincoln Scouts.

Photos from Gilwell Reunion 2023:

### **D.D.L.V Program & Activities**

This year has been an exciting one for Lincoln Scouts, from a Programme and Adventure point of view. I am sure the different sectional teams and the SASUs will give a full report of all the activities they have been organising, with fun days, hikes, activities. It has been a packed year all round.

It was great to see all the district coming together for our Lost World District Camp, with 4 groups from Gainsborough Scouts joining us. On Saturday we had 1027 on site, including 30 Squirrels having their first night under canvas. It was a great success and fabulous to have everyone from 4 to 18 (and older) enjoying the activities and learning skills for life.

Across the district young people of all ages have been taking part and achieving top awards in their sections. Well done and thank you to every adult who has helped the young people with their achievements.

**Kirsteen** District Deputy Commissioner - Programme and Adventure

### **Squirrels**

Another year and another year of firsts for Squirrels!

The most exciting first must be from the Lost World District Camp where we had 24 Squirrels spending their first night under canvas in their own Squirrel Village. All of the squirrels attending the camp were amazing and got stuck into all the activities they could.

Now that the Squirrel programme has been running for nearly three years, new badges are being introduced. Both dreys at 7<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> were involved in the pilot programme of the YouShape badge for

Squirrels which is now available for all to work towards. Dreys are also working on the new Space Explorer badge, and the Green Tree badge (which is available to all sections).

Groups are now seeing their original Squirrels making their moves through their groups into Beavers and some reaching Cubs.

Over the last year, dreys have again attended Chiller and District's St George's day parade.

There are now 8 dreys across Lincoln District, with over 100 Squirrels, and more than 40 Chief Scout Acorn awards having been achieved in the last 12 months.

I am looking forward to getting squirrel leaders together next term to hopefully plan a Christmas event later this year, and maybe a sleepover/camp next year.

Michele DLV Squirrels

## **Beavers**

The District Beaver Badge Day that was due to take place in March had to be postponed due to the bad weather and waterlogged ground at Sudbrooke. This has been rescheduled to the 15<sup>th</sup> September, with more than 200 Beavers from 14 groups currently down to attend.

Sudbrooke has also been booked for an Easter event next year, and thoughts are turning towards 2026 and the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Beavers, and maybe reintroducing the sleepovers at the Deep. For these events to go ahead though, there does need to be a team of people to support the organising of these and other events. To this end, there will be a leaders' get together after the badge day in September, once the Beavers have gone home.

## **Cubs**

This year the team organized two successful events and gained new members. In December the team organized a Christmas bowling event for Cubs across the district. It was well attended, with 11 groups taking part. In April the team held a Cub fun day at Sudbrooke. The day covered off the badge work for several badges, and despite the challenging weather, all had a good time. The team also organized and ran a wide game for the Cubs at Lost World District Camp in May.

The team have supported groups in the district as needed and have presented Chief Scout Silver Awards to Cubs in many groups.

Annmaire Gaskell, Sophie Colcomb and Julia Bell joined Paul Marshall, Rachel Rae and Tammy Dolling on the team, adding to our knowledge and experience.

## **Scouts**

This year the Scout ImpAct Team (formerly Scout ADC) have had a busy year embedding in the work started last year, and introducing new key events and achievements:

1. Scout Incident Hike: This year's Incident Hike was a tremendous success, with Scouts participating from all over Lincoln District. The event tested Scouts' navigation, problem-solving, and teamwork skills across various challenging scenarios throughout the urban hike. Feedback from both Scouts and adult volunteers

was overwhelmingly positive, emphasising the value of the event, and giving us cause to plan for annual or bi-annual hikes of this nature.

2. Supporting District events: We have taken on a role at many District events including running Scout activities at the Regatta and attending workshops at LincsFest, as well as supporting activities at County's Chiller24,
3. Supporting Individual Volunteers: The team continued to support and recognise the contributions of individual volunteers. This year, we offered several meet-ups to enhance volunteer skills and networking including social get togethers, formal Expedition training and drop in sessions at District events. We recognised our volunteers in the awarding of woodbeads and good service awards, as well as through events aimed specifically at Scout section volunteers. We plan to run a "Scout Leaders" Archery event soon to reward and to up-skill our volunteers.
4. Supporting Groups: Collaboration with Scout groups continue to be a priority. We have responded to requests for support where required, going out to group meeting places as often as possible. Some groups have had multiple visits, where support was required. We plan to visit more groups using drop-ins as well as by invitation.
5. Gold Chief Scout's Award: The pinnacle of our role is awarding the Gold Chief Scout's Award to a number of young people at a variety of destinations and meeting places. This award recognises outstanding effort, skill development, and community service. Each recipient demonstrates exceptional dedication and embodies the Scout values - we continue to advertise our eagerness to visit Scouts being awarded and always look forward to meeting YP achieving their best.
6. Pool Noodle Peg Caboodle Game: A new addition to our activities was the introduction of the Pool Noodle Game, aimed at enhancing teamwork and strategic thinking. The game was quickly taken up by the Scouts during our Lost World District Camp. It provided a fun and engaging way for Scouts to develop critical skills and was received well by all who attended.
7. The Scout Impact Team were an integral part of the Lost World District camp, in both the run up and during the event. In particular the running of the Craft Tent, special recognition going to Nicola, for her meticulous organisation, resourcing and management, allowing hundreds of YP from across all sections to take part in new and adventurous craft activities.
8. We successfully organised and ran a district-wide scout camp last May, planning and coordinating with all participating Scout troops. Preparations included selecting a suitable location, arranging necessary volunteers including permit holders, and ensuring safety protocols were in place. We used small teams to handle various aspects such as the activities, catering and infrastructure. We successfully experimented with the Zone System to ensure all YP had equal opportunity at each activity without the drawback of queuing, ensuring a seamless and enjoyable experience for all participants. We organised the evening entertainment with wide games and the outdoor cinema. The camp's success was evidenced by positive feedback from both scouts and leaders.

Many thanks    Connie, Nicola, Dawn and Kev    The Lincoln Scout ImpAct Team

## **Explorers**

At Census in January 2024 Lincoln Explorers achieved its' highest number of members to date at 171, a huge percentage increase on the previous year and it's a testament to the fabulous programmes that our Units leaders are providing for the 14 to 18 year olds, and, in many cases what the Explorers have planned and organised for themselves.

Amazons organised another successful quiz night earlier this year which was very well attended by teams from all over the District.

A group of 26 Explorers from across the district & 4 Leaders went to the new PGL Activity Centre at Ford Castle in Berwick on Tweed in October 23. They had the whole Castle to themselves and did a wide range of activities including Bridge Abseiling, Fencing, Orienteering, Bushcraft and the Leap of Faith.

Explorers from many of our Units took part in the annual Rabbit Run organised by EGXS Leaders, last year at Scredlington Village Hall, the booby prize of the Toilet Seat, a much coveted award apparently, going to a mixed Team from Amazons, Wayfarers and Sentries. Much fun had by all.

Explorers also attended Chiller 23 in good numbers taking part in the 24 Hour Challenge in November 2023.

As a District the Explorers went to the new Hollywood Bowl at Washingborough taking up 10 of the lanes for a

Pre- Christmas fun evening of Ten Pin Bowling.

In February a team from T-Rex took part in the Southern 50 Challenge, an annual 50km event in the Chilterns. They finished in 30<sup>th</sup> place in a time of 14 hours and 5 minutes in great style in their T-Rex costumes for the final 2km.

Here are our Explorers in Fedoras! Well done to all who took part.

Explorers have been taking part in numerous Camps and activities all year, indoors and outdoors from Pottery to Gliding, Kayaking, Platinum Award Expeditions, the fabulous Lost World District Camp and many visits to the Metheringham Airfield Visitor Centre during this 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day year. Wayfarers are off on a Sailing at Sea activity weekend shortly. We also have Sentries planning a Train Ex-ped to join up with an Explorer Unit in West Lothian District in the October half term.

All Units, Amazons, Crusaders, Coritani, EGXS, Mavericks, Spartan, Sentries, T-Rex, Vikings & Wayfarers have a full programme of events, activities & community projects keeping our Young People busy and active and learning so many new skills. There isn't enough space to list them all but wow what great things everyone is doing.

Forthcoming events this year include a 32 strong, plus leaders, contingent attending the Essex Jamboree in the summer organised by EGXS. The Annual Rabbit Run takes place in October and Chiller again in November.

Lincoln Explorers continue to assist all of the other sections via the Young Leader Programme and we have seen more than 20 new Young Leaders take their Module A in the past year with more due in the coming months. Several are in the final stages of achieving their Young Leader Belt so we look forward to receiving their completed modules and missions.

I would once again like to express my gratitude to all the Explorer Leaders making these activities and events possible for our Young People, Bravo! Julia Tyler. District Explorer Lead Volunteer.

## **Network**

### **PDF separate document**

### **Altham Terrrace**

Lincoln district headquarters Altham Terrace provides a brilliant inner-city campsite in the heart of Lincoln city with lots of activities based on site from water, mountain, archery, bushcraft and caving. Some of the district's equipment is stored on site along with the District archives. One of our regular users are the 12<sup>th</sup> and Network. We have had groups from in and out of our district camping at Altham.

Unfortunately, there was a small fire that put the 12ths building out of action at the beginning of the year, all should be fixed soon.

There is a dedicated working party who have some big plans for Altham, possibly a new building.

Altham Terrace is a little gem that has provided a safe space for so many young members for so many years.

I'd like to thank the team for their work throughout the year.

Rob Otter

## **Archery**

Since last April, we have achieved a total of 1,677 participants shooting. The majority of these are from Lincoln groups. We have also provided archery to other groups within the county and provided archery at Chiller 2023, Lincs Fest and Lincoln District Camp 2024.

In September we launched our youth provision for archery called the Archery Youth. This is open to Scouts and Explorers; we currently have 10 youth members. The Archery Youth allow those who have a keen interest in archery and wish to pursue it regularly. It also gives them the opportunity to gain the Master at Arms activity badge for scouts, Sports Enthusiast activity badge for Explorers and a possibility to gain an archery permit.

The archery competition this year saw record numbers. We had a total of 51 participants from around the county. 29 Scouts, 5 Explorers and 9 Adults. The dates for the 2025 competition are the 12th and 13th July. We will be releasing an exciting announcement regarding the competition later this year. Make sure you keep an eye out on our Facebook page and in LaDS for further details.

Several of our instructors also took part in Derbyshire Scouts 'The Big Shoot' competition at Drum Hill, winning medals in archery as well as a gold in air rifles.

It has been 5 years since I took over from Albert and I would like to see how we are doing and if there are any improvements that could be made. Please scan the QR code to fill out our 5-year review survey. There is also a chance to win 20% off a session for those who take part.

We are always looking for new archery instructors to join our team. If you are interested and want to find out more, please send an email across and we will be in touch

## **Bushcraft**

Altham Terrace Bushcraft Team have continued to provide Bushcraft and survival skills for the Lincoln District and the County. They have given hundreds, if not thousands of young members skills for life.

The team are taking on more events in the coming months for the County, incorporating training skills in the art of fire-craft, cooking, shelter building and water purification. My favourites are, traps and tracking, axe and saw and Knife skills incorporating the skinning and preparation of wild foods. These are a new favourite with the young people who also love bushcraft popcorn!!

We as a team try and give the young members skills for life with the wow factor built in.

The team are always looking for new members and help.

Rob Otter      Bushcraft Coordinator

## **Band**

It is a pleasure to report that Lincoln District Scout Band survived covid and were able to successfully lead the 2023 St Georges Day Parade in Lincoln, the first since 2019. With the Bandmasters impending move out of the area the post of Bandmaster was taken on by Monica Pollard, with David Jackson remaining as the Band SASU lead from a geographical distance.

Sadly, band treasurer Sian Thompson passed away in September of 2023 leaving a large hole in the committee. The band owes her a great amount of gratitude for her continuation in this role throughout her long illness. She will not easily be replaced.



Under Monica's leadership the band have grown enormously adding many more young people to its fold. She has worked with them tirelessly on Sunday afternoons in North Hykeham as well as Monday evenings at Altham Terrace bringing them up to scratch for this years St Georges Day Parade. This work continues and its highly likely the band will be even bigger in 2025.

The band has again started to pay subs which was suspended during covid and when band initially restarted and Sudbrooke was provided without charge.

The future for the band therefore looks bright.

## **Caving**

It has been another busy year for Lincoln Scouts Caving Club. Firstly, our membership has grown to 38 people, which is broken down further to 30 adult members and 8 LinSECT members. For those who don't know, Lincoln Scout and Explorer Caving Team (LinSECT) is our junior section of the club, which after covid had zero members. Numbers have doubled this year, mainly thanks to running our two Explorer's caving weekends in the Yorkshire Dales. On the Scout caving front, we have run 16 Scout caving days which is more than double our agreed provision. Furthermore, some of these days have included three separate groups from across the district and county.

As we step into another year, we are again running an explorer's weekend in the Yorkshire Dales, a LinSECT weekend in South Wales, and numerous beginner trips to the Peak District. If caving isn't for you as an adult sat at the AGM, we kindly ask that you pass on how exciting caving may be for your Scouts and Explorers, as they may come along and find out that caving is really good fun! Finally, my time as SASU Manager for caving will be coming to an end from June 2025, as I shift my focus onto my growing family, with our baby boy due on the 26<sup>th</sup> July. I will also be slightly less involved with caving for a couple of months this year once baby is born, but caving will still be going ahead thanks to our permit holders, and contact will still be via [lincscaving@gmail.com](mailto:lincscaving@gmail.com).

## **Fellowship**

The Fellowship Scout Active Support Unit continues to play an active part in district activities and events, and 23/24 was no different.

In October two of our members attended a first aid course at Altham Terrace.

December/January saw us again selling tickets for the squirrels, beavers, scouts & cubs annual panto trip to the Little Theatre. (We must have made a reasonable job of it last year.)

January saw us involved in the District Incident Hike when several of our members helped in manning several checkpoints.

In February we held our annual meal together at Lawson's Restaurant in the Strait. The food was good and the company excellent.

Our challenge to the district was finally taken up by Network who took us on at a darts event held at the still Pub in what was a very competitive but pleasant evening the more so as we prevailed winning two of the three games.

As usual we played a full and active part in St Georges day Parade both in and outside the Cathedral.

Network in May set us a second challenge, a ten-pin bowling match at Hollywood Bowl. In what was a close-run thing, held in the true scouting spirit, SASU won by ten points. A third challenge has been mentioned between us, possibly crazy golf, which we are up for. SASU is open to any challenges from the district!!!

In May members assisted at the Lost World District Camp which was very enjoyable I understand but very exhausting.

We are still looking for new members so why not give us a try.

Here's to 24/25!

## **MAT**

2023 proved to be a very successful year and 2024 is shaping up to be just as great, lots of groups climbing at Sudbrooke, with more booked in. Two successful camps in the Peak District giving the Scouts of the District & beyond the chance to get some serious walking on the hills and climbing on rock done. There are still some space on the regular climbing sessions.

This year, MAT is launching a district hiking competition with two hikes open to Scouts: one at 13km and a longer 26km route. Are your Scouts good enough to beat everyone else? There are also options available for Explorers, Network, and Leaders if they are up for the challenge. Keep an eye out for the posters in your email and on social media; it is expected to be popular.

We also try to help with climbing and walking permits and training where we can so please get in touch if this is something you would like to explore. You don't need to be a MAT member or a climber or a hiker just keen, willing to get involved and give some time.

The team do an awful lot behind the scenes, visits, training, refurbishing climbing towers and I'd like to thank everyone of them for all the time and effort they put in

If you would like to know how the MAT can support your group, with a group visit, climbing or hillwalking please get in touch by emailing [bookings@ldsmat.org.uk](mailto:bookings@ldsmat.org.uk)

Andrew Cooke  
MAT

## **Sudbrooke**

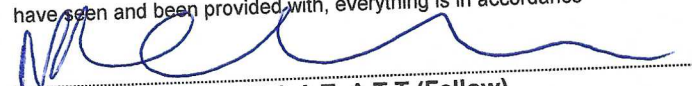
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**LINCOLN AND DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL  
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts :</b>				
Cashbook		149,868		96,176
Scout Band		30		145
Mountain Activity Team		5,084		7,176
Caving Club		2,876		4,552
Water Activities		15		888
Badges		4,777		2,050
Sudbrooke Camp Site and Committee		28,509		21,042
Lincoln District Explorer		17,284		20,288
Archery		3,249		1,446
Bank Interest		517		-
		<u>212,209</u>		<u>153,763</u>
		<u><u>212,209</u></u>		<u><u>153,763</u></u>
<b>Overheads :</b>				
Cashbook	125,520		93,269	
Network Building Society		-		1,102
Scout Band	50			-
Mountain Activity Team	4,431			6,247
Caving Club	4,397			3,271
Water Activities	4,110			631
Badges	5,242			-
Sudbrooke Camp Site and Committee	34,323			26,509
Lincoln District Explorer	19,397			21,275
Archery	3,524			2,757
Accountancy	275			300
	<u>201,269</u>		<u>155,361</u>	
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Surplus/(Deficit) of Income over Expenditure		<u>10,940</u>		<u>(1,598)</u>
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**ACCOUNTANTS REPORT**

I have prepared the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 from the books, records and explanations providing, without carrying out a full audit and in my opinion, based on what I have seen and been provided with, everything is in accordance



**Miss T Bannister F.M.A.A.T, A.T.T (Fellow)**

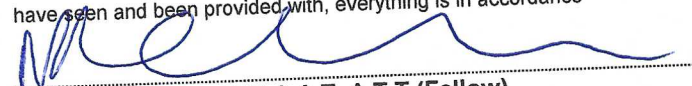
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Coningsby  
Lincolnshire  
LN4 4JX

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**Miss T Bannister F.M.A.A.T, A.T.T (Fellow)**

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