

Volunteering made easier



Wrexham District Scout Council
Annual Report & Accounts 2021/22



Scouts
Wrexham

Front page: 1st Rossett Beaver Scouts

From the District Chairperson

It is now a year since I was formally appointed as District Chair.

It's fair to say that it has been a bit of a year! The first exec meeting I chaired was held at Cox Wood and we sat socially distanced in the fresh air; our next meeting we spread out in the hall with masks on, and then battled to hear each other over the heating! Fast forward to now, and it is lovely to be able to see so many people and speak in person.

Our role, as your District Executive, is to support everyone involved in Scouting in Wrexham. This has been in our minds as we have worked to take forward several of the priorities which were identified in the District Development Plan, particularly help in ensuring you have functioning Group Executives.

More recently we have started to consider diversity and inclusion and whether there is further help we can give here. Over the next few weeks, we will be sharing some data we have gathered about the local area and our own "diverse" mix and what this suggests with GSLs.

We have had conversations about how we might be able to offer further financial or practical support in light of the current cost of living challenges we are all facing.

On that note, please can parents who are at the AGM fill in the short survey on tables to help us understand where we may be able

to best target support over the next few months.

We are pleased to be able to announce that, thanks to the generosity of a former Scout, we are in the process of establishing a "Quiet Fund" which we will use, as needed to ensure that no young person is left out of activities. Moz will communicate more on this in due course.

What else – we have looked carefully at our own procedures, generally, financially and from a communication perspective. We've clarified rates for hire of the HQ hall and training room, now have an online booking system in place and will be supporting the newly formed HQ crew in their efforts to ensure our HQ is clean, welcoming and safe.

As we look to next year, the ongoing question of the HQ relocation and "will we move, won't we move" is again bubbling away and likely to dominate not just planned meetings but I suspect many more on top. If anyone has experience, they can offer to help us with this, please do speak to Moz and myself. Equally we can always find room for those who have time or would like to join the Exec!

Any Executive Committee is only as good as its members. I have been fortunate to have been supported by a fantastic group who have helped educate and guide me.

It never feels appropriate to single out anyone person however I do want to publicly thank Karen for her work as Treasurer, and Sue & Mike for seeing me through a very challenging time earlier in the year, and Moz... Scouting in Wrexham would not be where it is today without you

so thank you from me and I'm sure
everyone here today for all that you do.

Finally to all our volunteers in whatever role
you are in. You bring Scouting to life each
week for over 450 young people. On their
behalf, thank you.

Nicola Morris



6th Wrexham Cub Scouts at BeWilderWood

From the District Commissioner

The title of this year's report is "Volunteering made easier" - and this is crucial if we are to keep recruiting and retaining adults.

There are many ways we can make things easier for volunteers and we've been working on some of them over the last 12 months.

Firstly - working in teams...

The role of District Commissioner has so many facets that it would be impossible to do single-handedly.

I'm lucky enough to work with lots of teams of people so that I can share the load.

The District Team is mainly focussed on supporting Scout Groups and Explorer Scout Units to deliver activities, and consists of the Assistant District Commissioners and a few other long and complicated titles that I won't bother you with now.

Nicola has spoken about the functions of the District Executive and we are very lucky to have an excellent team of trustees who keep us in order and support us all.

The Group Scout Leaders are a team and often meet together with me to discuss common issues and solutions in what can be a lonely role without this peer support.

Finally there are lots of people who work at a District level who look after things like the shop, badges, training, Cox Wood, and dealing with membership enquiries.

All of these teams share the load and make sure that everything isn't "on me" - though often I don't make full use of them.

Working in teams requires trust - and isn't the first Scout Law "a Scout is to be trusted"? Trust to let someone else take on a task despite your fears they might not do it exactly as you would have - who knows, they might even do it better!

None of this is new, and I've been told by many Sections who I've spoken to about this over the last year that they do this anyway - and those that tell me this are often the most successful.

Secondly - welcoming new adults...

At our All Volunteers Meeting back in January one big issue came up from some adults who'd recently volunteered. They said there was no clear set of instructions of what they were supposed to do, and when. No clear list of what training they needed to do.

So we set about creating pages on the District website which would do this. Of course line managers also provide this support, but sometimes a simple online guide to reinforce the face to face chats is useful. I'm pleased to say these resources have gone down well.

In these two ways, we in Wrexham have started a process which the whole of UK Scouts will be undergoing soon to improve the experience of volunteers:

- A warmer welcome for everyone
- Simplifying how we volunteer together with new roles and structures
- More support to help get everyday things done: digital transformation
- A more engaging learning experience



1st Esclusham Scouts on a night hike

By this time next year the third and fourth parts will be here, including a replacement for our adult members database, Compass, and a revamp of adult training.

All of this works towards the first of four priorities of our District Development Plan which were:

- Adult recruitment and support
- Diversity
- Young Adults 18-24
- Governance

The second and last on this list have been taken on by the District Executive Committee.

As for the third, a huge step forward was taken in the last month with the appointment of our new District Youth Commissioners, Ethan King and Megan Sayer.

I'm so excited for what they will bring to the District. A new, youth shaped, perspective and enthusiasm in spades.

And what a start they've had in the role! Just weeks after they were announced in their roles, a request came from the Scouts for 120 young people to support with the lying-in-state of Her Majesty The Queen.

Ethan, Megan and Chip Drew were selected from Wrexham to take part and spent a week supporting the massive queues. We are so proud of all three of them, and also thank those that applied but didn't get through. To have three from one District was by all accounts very rare.

What else have we been doing this year? Well we've welcomed Andrew McGregor-Andrew as Assistant District Commissioner (Scouts), and Sharon Seaton who has taken over dealing with all the Membership

Enquiries emails we have, previously looked after by Lesley Cole who has moved away from the District.

Thank you to Andrew for your contribution so far - you really have been a breathe of fresh air - and to Sharon for what you're about to do, and Lesley for your amazing work.

We've also said goodbye to Alan Williams who was our Appointments Committee Chair and his sister Sandra Jones, who we only let stand down as Appointments Secretary as they are getting rid of the role shortly - we certainly wouldn't have been able to manage without you otherwise Sandra.

A huge thank you to Alan for his excellent chairing of the meetings and both the way he was serious about this vital role but in a cheerful and approachable way. To Sandra we will miss you so very much in District HQ on a Wednesday night, but I'm certain we will see you around. Thank you for the massive difference you have made.

Finally thank you to everyone on the teams I mentioned earlier and to every single adult volunteer and Young Leader out there who work so hard - or just a little bit (remember, we're flexible) - to make Wrexham Scouts what it is.

Moz Morris

Annual Accounts 2020/21



Rhosnesni Beavers dam building at Erddig

Wrexham District Scout Council – Year Ended 31 March 2022

Receipts and payments

	CONSOLIDATION
Receipts	
Donations, legacies and similar income	
Membership subscriptions	38174.15
Less: Membership subscriptions paid on (National/County/Area)	31897.50
Net membership subscriptions retained	£6,276.65
Donations	359.25
Loans and Liabilities	0.00
Gift Aid - ESU	0.00
Sub total	£6,635.90
Grants	
Sale of Hanmer Scout Hut	0.00
Youth Strategy Grant - Activity Training	0.00
Sub total	£-
Fundraising/Miscellaneous	
Scout Shop Sales	8833.65
Other district	2399.60
Coxwood	18255.15
Explorer Scout Unit	15952.79
Bryn y Pys	663.27
Sub total	£46,104.46
Investment income	
Bank interest	
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service	13.92
District HQ Rent & Car Park Rent	4588.13
Sub total	£4,602.05
Total Gross Income	£57,342.41
Asset and investment sales, etc.	
Total receipts	£57,342.41

Receipts and payments

Payments	
Premises Costs	
District Headquarters	6909.57
Coxwood Campsite	21937.10
Explorer Scout Units	15684.53
Bryn Y Pys	410.13
Donations	0.00
Scout Active Support	0.00
District Grants & Donations	0.00
Training	0.00
Support Teams, Training & Administration	1717.27
	0.00
Depreciation	0.00
	0.00
International Camp	0.00
District Section Activities	1134.10
Sub total	£47,792.70
Miscellaneous	196.50
Scout Shop - Cost of Sales & Expenses	5956.29
Badge Secretary - Cost of Sales & Expenses	0.00
	0.00
Sub total	£6,152.79
Total Gross Expenditure	£53,945.49
Assets and Purchases - Grant Assisted	0.00
Total payments	£53,945.49
Net of receipts/(payments)	£3,396.92
Fund Balances brought forward	£107,952.04
Fund Balances carried forward	£111,348.96

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

Current Assets	
Cash at bank & in hand	£111,398.96
Debtors	£0.00
Loans to Scout Groups	£0.00
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service	£12,250.00
National Savings account	0.00
Total cash funds	£123,648.96

Represented by:-

General Fund

£123,648.96

The above receipts and payments account were approved by the Trustees on (the date of the Executive Committee meeting that approved the accounts) and signed on their behalf by

Signature

Mr David Morris - District Commissioner

Mrs Karen Cheesbrough - Treasurer



Megan Sayer and Ethan King - our new District Youth Commissioners - volunteering to help with the lying-in-state of Her Majesty The Queen

Last year...

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held by Zoom 22 September 2021

Apologies for absence

No apologies were received.

Approval of minutes from the AGM held by Zoom 26th August 2020

The minutes were proposed by Sue Lister and seconded by Anne Marie Roberts. They were then signed in to the record.

Acceptance of the statement of the accounts

The statement of accounts was presented by the District Treasurer, Karen Cheesbrough. Proposed to be accepted by Liz Dodman and seconded by Rob Dodman. Approved by the meeting.

Approval of the District Commissioner's nomination for Chairperson

The District Commissioner (DM) nominated Nicky Morris for the post of District Chairperson. All present were in agreement.

Nomination and election of District Secretary

Paul Forret was nominated for the position of District Secretary. Proposed by Sue Lister and seconded by Ian McLean. All present were in agreement.

Nomination and approval of District Treasurer

Karen Cheesbrough was nominated by Lisa Jones and seconded by Steven Brown. All present accepted.

Approval of persons nominated by the DC to serve on the Executive Committee

Sue Lister, Mike Meadows, Dave Cheesbrough and Lisa Jones.
Proposed by Sian Dent and seconded by Laura Camps

Election of members to serve on the Executive Committee

Neil Curtis, Elizabeth Dodman, Steven Brown, Sam Wilde, and Ian McLean,
Proposed by Arron Wright and seconded by Chris McLean. All elected.

Appointment of Independent scrutineer

Karen Williams. Proposed by Mike Meadows and seconded by Ian McLean

Election of representative to to the Area Scout Council

Anne Marie Roberts. Proposed by Mike Meadows and seconded by Ian McLean

Election of Members for the Cox Wood Sub Committee

Chris Maddocks, Mike Meadows, Gerry Lister, Ian McLean, Dave Cheesbrough. Bob Hodges.
Proposed by Colleen Graham and seconded by Sue Lister



Wrexham District Scout Council – Year Ended 31 March 2022

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Signature

Mr David Morris - District Commissioner

Mrs Karen Cheesbrough - Treasurer

Miss K Williams
Berthyn Cottage
1 Woodland Road
Moss
Wrexham
LL11 6BD

6 September 2022

kazwilliams@msn.com

Mrs K Cheesbrough
Treasurer
Wrexham & District Scouts

Dear Mrs Cheesbrough

Audit of Wrexham and District Scout Accounts

I have now completed the audit of the Wrexham and District Scout accounts¹ and attach for your attention the Summary of Transactions for the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022 along with the consolidated accounts for submission to the Charities Commission.

I also enclose my invoice for work undertaken in auditing these accounts.

Should you have any queries regarding the above please do not hesitate to contact me at the above e-mail address.

Yours sincerely

Karen

Miss Karen Williams CIPFA DPA

¹ See Appendix A for breakdown of accounts audited

Appendix A – Details of accounts audited

Account Name	Bank	Account number
District Account	Nat West	08130728
District Account	CAF Bank	032873
Cox Wood Business Reserve	Nat West	31296815
Cox Wood	CAF Bank	032874
K2 account	Barclays Bank	33324869
Atlas account	Nat West	90864271
Atlas account	Cash	Cash
Bryn Y Pys	Nat West	79574343