



A Year To Celebrate!

Wrexham District Scout Council
Annual Report & Accounts 2018/19



Scouts have become presidents, astronauts, entrepreneurs and pop stars. They have walked on the moon and won Olympic Gold. But they are also the teachers, social workers and volunteers - the people who make society work.



Duke of Edinburgh's Award expeditions

From the District Chairperson

The District Executive Committee plays a vital role in the running of a Scout District. Executive Committees make decisions and carry out administrative tasks to ensure that the best quality Scouting can be delivered to young people in the District. The Executive Committee exists to support the District Commissioner in meeting the responsibilities of their appointment.

I have been District Chair for over two years now and though we are a small team, we are a very strong one. Our new appointments this year have been Paul Forret who is District Secretary and has settled extremely well into the role, being very proactive in assisting with finding contracts for works that need at the Headquarters. We also have a new Booking Secretary and HQ manager, Tony Pattison, who has been brilliant at organising the regular users and maintaining the building to a good standard. I would like to thank everyone on the Exec Committee for their hard work and commitment to their roles which can be a difficult task when juggling it with their own busy lives and work commitments.

I also extend my thanks to all of our dedicated leaders, assistant leaders and occasional helpers who plan exciting programmes week in week out to provide all the young people in the

area with a wide range of challenging, educational and fun activities taking them out into the community and beyond to help them develop lifelong skills they otherwise may not get. The support of their parents and carers are also of paramount importance to enable these activities to take place and I thank you all for doing so.

As a committee, we have updated the fire risk assessment at the HQ with a view to install a new system that will meet current standards for enabling sleepovers to be held again. The boiler finally breathed its last so a modern wall mounted system was installed early this year. We are also installing a wet system and new water boiler during the summer holidays to heat the remainder of the building. The completion of the sale of the Hanmer Scout Building has been done and the proceeds ring fenced for capital projects as required. We are updating our banking system to include online banking and the HQ shop can now accept card payments as well as cash.

I am very much looking forward to continuing in my role for the coming year and for all the challenges that are thrown in the District's direction. If there is anyone who would like to be a part of join our dedicated team, we will be delighted to have you join us.

Ali Dwight



1st Hope Beavers' visit to Wrexham Fire Station

From the District Commissioner

We've titled this year's report 'A Year to Celebrate' - and we do have so much to be chuffed about! Very often we get a bit bogged down or frustrated when plans don't quite work out the way we wanted. But if we take a moment to look back on how much we have achieved - in our spare time as volunteers - it's incredible!

I've been concentrating a bit more on supporting Group Scout Leaders this year. It's something I've always meant to do, but finding time to sit down for face to face meetings is always hard, but definitely worth it. The GSLs are the heroes of the District in my eyes. It's a really tough job which sometimes seems like it has no reward, but at the risk of repeating myself, when they look back on what they've achieved it's a massive amount.

Most importantly Group Scout Leaders spend lots of time recruiting more adult volunteers and supporting them. At District we've tried to help with this key task by meeting with Groups to go through growth plans, we've produced welcome packs to support new adults, and distributed *Planning for Growth* booklets to all Section Leaders and GSLs.

This year our youth numbers grew by 6.4% and our adult numbers were up

3.4%, so we're obviously doing something right!

We've also spent a lot of time consulting our members to ensure we're doing what they think is important. Our Calendar Plan evening may have clashed with England's semi final match (oops!) but still lots came down and their input led to us putting on a fantastic Christmas Celebration in Tŷ Pawb and we ditched St George's Day in favour of our brand new Promise Day which brought the District together in Bellevue Park.

Sadly, although we're listening to adults, we're still struggling to give young people the voice they deserve. Our District Youth Commissioner James Pitt stood down due to pressures with college and work and we've found it impossible to find someone to replace him. We are looking at appointing Group Youth Reps however to bring some sort of Youth Shaped Scouting to Wrexham as well as putting on an Events Management course for Young Leaders.

At our All Leaders' Meetings in January we listened to the priorities which would make leaders' lives easier, and the feedback from this has shaped our District plan. We also consulted on communications and as a result we have a strategy which will hopefully make things simpler, clearer and more effective. Hopefully you're all using Slack and reading your emails!

To make things easier for our Assistant District Commissioners (Sections) we implemented an online booking system on our website for District events. This helps as it avoids numbers coming in via email, text, Facebook - now we just have one way of booking which makes keeping track much easier. I hope!

Events which have made use of this system, and the previous rather more ad-hoc version included a Scouts' trip to Alton Towers, a Beavers' music day, World themed sleepover & Techniquet visit, Cubs' trips to Ironbridge & Chester Zoo plus a back to basics camp, and DofE expeditions & training for Explorers.

We also had two international expeditions last year with K2 Explorers travelling to Hungary for two weeks of activities and culture and there was a District Scouts trip to Croatia with snorkelling, boat trips and the gondolas of Venice.

As Ali will have mentioned in her report, it's been a particularly busy year for the District Executive with their efforts to bring us into the 21st century with online banking, and to bring the District HQ heating system into the 20th century so it works in any way at all! Exciting things ahead for that particular building so lots more work ahead.

Cox Wood, our District Campsite, goes from strength to strength with new

toilets & showers amongst the many improvements there. The team who keep the place going are all volunteers and many of them aren't getting any younger, but that never stops them - it doesn't even appear to slow them down!

I'd like to pay a huge tribute to all those at District level - our District Team, District Exec and those that help at HQ and Cox Wood - for everything they do to support Scouting in Wrexham. When things don't quite go to plan, consider this... Did the young people know what our plans were? Did they enjoy what we did anyway? The answer is usually a resounding "YES!"

Moz Morris



1st Moss Scouts pioneering night

What does Wrexham District do?



Explorer Scouting, Scout Network and Scout Active Support are all District responsibilities



We encourage Sections to run adventurous activities for young people and adults and support the acquisition of activity permits



Growing Scouting and supporting retention of members are key objectives of Scouting and we work hard to achieve these aims



District events are probably the most visible things we do, bringing Groups & Units together to show that they're part of something big



We manage District HQ, including the Scout shop, and Cox Wood campsite - all resources which directly benefit Scouting in Wrexham



Scout Groups & Units are where the magic happens - we provide direct support to help them run their weekly programmes & activities



Keeping things legal, decent & honest is a vital function of District, through our own District Executive and supporting Groups Execs



We maintain links between our District and our neighbours, inside Scouting and externally, and promote what we do to the wider world



Working with Area and Wales we ensure all our adults have the skills and knowledge to deliver safe, quality Scouting



We're committed to trying as hard as we can to get young people working in partnership with adults to run Scouting



We ensure that we shout about our successes and recognise those who help us achieve them!

Youth Awards

Chief Scout's Bronze Award

Bishops Own

Oliver Jones
Finlay Williams
Max Pritchard
Dafydd Bostock
Lydia Poole

41st Wrexham

Jakub Grzybowski
Sophie Forgrave
Niamh Berry
Mia Valentine
Jacob Cunningham
Lucas Brown

1st Coedpoeth

Matthew Keats
Macsen Griffiths
Elias Robinson
Gwen Evans
Lucy Wilson
Morgan Cartwright
Evan Clarke
Maison Williams Tattum
Malacai Burrows

1st Moss

Samuel Doore
Brandon Roberts
Seren Rees
Noah Millington
James Schofield

6th Wrexham

Harry Buck
Josh McAllister

Zachery Hughes
Dewi Heard

1st Rhosnesni

Freddie Cole
George Owen
Joseph Whiting
Oliver Hughes
Dylan Thomas
Lewis Jones
Dylan Thomas
Lewis Jones

1st Gwersyllt

Charlie Roberts
Joshua Samuels
Harry Corcoran
Finn Corcoran
Jessica Longshaw
Summer Murphy

1st Marchweil

Finley Griffiths
Jake Ward
Osian Cnuenok

1st Overton

Harry Lloyd

1st Bwlchgwyn

Leon Ketteringham-Cuff
Minnie Roberts
Ffion Price
Jacob Robinson

Chief Scout's Silver Award

1st Moss

Chris Rowlands
Chloe Mort
Miya Bennion

Summer Berry
Seth Davies

1st Hope

Evelyn Parry
Grace Scott-Lakey
Ryley Hazeldine
Samuel Jones
Alfie Pearce
Daniel Davies
Ryan Harper

Bishop's Own

Teilo Owen

1st Rhosnesni

Daniel Jones
Jac Evans
Leon Parish

41st Wrexham

Amelia Piorunowska
Magdalena Milczanowska
Roxanna Jones
Ella Henshaw
Olivia Hodges

1st Bwlchgwyn

Daniel O'Callaghan
Logan Salisbury
Rosie O'Brien

Chief Scout's Gold Award

1st Rhosnesni

Daniel Frankel
Thomas Cole
James Edwards
Joel Erdington
Iwan Holland
John Eardley

Isaac Smith

1st Esclusham

Demi Morris
Ryan Birch
Sam Rose

1st Moss

Becky Bunting

1st Coedpoeth

Lewis Hughes

1st Gwersyllt

Evan Owens
Faith Evans
Christopher Roberts

1st Bwlchgwyn

David Cracknell
Ethan Le-Cheminant

Chief Scout's Platinum Award

K2 ESU

Niamh Hope
Josh Evans
Emre Eurkel
Tom Cole
Oliver McEvoy
Tom Amsbury

Atlas ESU

Luke Corcoran
Callum Rogers
Becky Bunting
Kaia Dodman
Sarah Marles
Kai Walsh
Micha Dodman
Ellie Hulmes

Nyah Davies
Sian Hughes
Gareth Morris
Noah Clutton
Hamish Peffers
Louis Gunning

Bryn y Pys ESU
Katherine Stanley

Young Leaders' Unit
David Jones
Luke Holt
Dylan Henfrey-Collins

Bishop's Own ESU
Kian Paddock

Chief Scout's Diamond Award

K2 ESU
Liam O'Toole
Tom Durnell

Atlas ESU
Abbie Whiting
Bronwyn Rowlands
Rohan Patel
Oliver Williams

Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze

Atlas ESU
Micha Dodman
Ellie Hulmes
Nyah Davies
Luke Corcoran
Callum Rogers
Becky Bunting
Kaia Dodman
Sian Hughes

Kai Walsh
Gareth Morris
Noah Clutton
Hamish Peffers
Louis Gunning

Bryn y Pys ESU
Katherine Stanley

K2 ESU
Niamh Hope
Josh Evans
Emre Eurkel
Tom Cole
Oliver McEvoy
Tom Amsbury

Young Leaders' Unit
Dylan Collins
Luke Holt

Duke of Edinburgh's Silver

K2 ESU
Liam O'Toole
Tom Durnell

Atlas ESU
Bronwyn Rowlands
Oliver Williams

Young Leader Buckle

David Jones - 1st Hope
Kaia Dodman - 1st Moss
Noah Clutton - 6th Wrexham
Sarah Hughes - 6th Wrexham
Nyah Davies - 1st Gwersyllt



1st Esclusham Scouts installing poo-bags in their community

Adult Awards

Bar to the Award for Merit

Colleen Graham

Chief Scout's 20 years Service Award

Dorothy Lesbirel

Chief Scout's 15 years Service Award

Trev Haughton

Chris Maddocks

Chief Scout's 10 years Service Award

Butch Butcher

Peter Griffiths

Anne-Marie Roberts

Aaron Wright

Chief Scout's 5 years Service Award

Steve Davies

Debbie Henfrey-Collins

Daniel Jones

Nick Price

Jason Topliss

Kelvin Vernon

Wood Badge

Paul Marles

Peter Griffiths

Murray Sturrock

Daniel Jones

David Burton

Neil Curtis

Pete Griffiths

Ethan Smee

Rachel Harris



ADC Beaver Scouts Colleen Graham during our trip to Croatia

Last year...

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting at Maesgwyn Hall Wrexham on 25th April 2018

Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Sue Vening

Approval of minutes from the AGM held on April 5th 2017

The Minutes were proposed by Sue Lister and seconded by Rob Dodman. They were then signed in to the record.

Acceptance of the statement of accounts

The statement of accounts was presented by the District Treasurer, Karen Cheesbrough. Proposed to be accepted by Ian McLean and seconded by Colleen Graham. Approved by the meeting.

Approval of the District Commissioner's nomination for Chairperson

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

Nomination and election of District Secretary

Dave Cheesbrough had made it known he wanted to stand down as District Secretary and as there were no volunteers from the room the role remained unfilled and so no election was held.

Nomination and approval of District Treasurer

Karen Cheesbrough was nominated by Sue Lister and seconded by Pat Morris. All present accepted.

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

Moz Morris nominated Sue Lister, Dean Edwards, Alison Pawley and Dave Cheesbrough. All accepted by the meeting

Election of members to serve on the Executive Committee

Sharron Davies, Ian McLean, Alex Jones and Liz Dodman were duly elected by those present.

Appointment of Honorary Auditor

This appointment was confirmed as Karen Williams after being proposed by Karen Cheesbrough and seconded by Debbie Collins.

Election of a representative to the Area Scout Council

Jan George was proposed by Moz Morris and seconded by Sue Mort. Duly accepted by the meeting.

Election of Members for the Cox Wood Sub Committee

Mike Meadows for the post of Cox Wood Chair. Sue Lister as Cox Wood Secretary.
Karen Cheesbrough as Cox Wood Treasurer. Other members are Chris Maddocks as Manager, Gerry Lister, Bob Hodges, Ian Maclean and Josh Hughes.
All the above were accepted by the meeting.



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