

# A YEAR TO CELEBRATE!

**WREXHAM DISTRICT SCOUTS  
ANNUAL REPORT 2016/7**



*Front cover picture: Bear Grylls at the Clwyd Scouts Area Camp 2016*

# From the District Chair

The last twelve months saw our excellent leaders and all those who support continue to deliver an exciting and rewarding programme for all the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts of the Wrexham District. My thanks go to them for all the hard work they have put in to make scouting in Wrexham such a success. None of this would be possible without the support they receive from the District Commissioner and his team who work tirelessly behind the scenes to support all those who deliver for the young people on a weekly basis. My thanks on behalf of the executive committee are extended to them all.

The executive committee met on a regular basis throughout the year and they have provided great deal of support in the running of the district. I am sure the new executive committee will continue to provide this support during next year. They will do so under a new chair as I have decided that it is time for me to step down from this role (I originally agreed to the role for a maximum of three years and it's been seven) During those seven years I have been well supported by all those who have serve on the executive and I extend my thanks to them all. A new chair will bring a new perspective on all matters and I wish them well in their new role.

The role of parents in scouting is often underestimated but they can and do play a vital role in the life of any scout group. Providing help and support when they can is one of the ways in which parents can show their thanks to leaders who week in week out provided their sons and daughters with activities both educational and challenging. I must therefore extend my thanks to all those parents who in ways both large and small help to support Scouting in Wrexham.

The cox wood campsite committee plays an important role managing the facilities offered by the site and I extend my thanks to them for giving up their time to attend meetings. My thanks must go to Chris Maddocks who as site manager took responsibility for the day to day running of the site and to those who, as and when required, acted as wardens or led activities and to the other volunteers who help to maintain the site and keep it tidy and ready for use throughout the year.

Scouting is a vital part of the range of activities offered to young people in Wrexham, it is my belief that with your support it will continue to provide this service and reach out, support and help develop the life skills and self-confidence of an increasing number of the young people of Wrexham.

**Mike Meadows**



District Scouts expedition to Switzerland

# From the District Commissioner

Amazingly, I'm still here!

I'll be honest, I've found being District Commissioner is one of the hardest jobs in Scouting. The emails never stop coming, the phone never stops ringing, and just "popping" into the Scout Shop on a Wednesday night is impossible.

Just when you've successfully put out one "fire" in front of you, while your back has been turned three more have started behind you.

But I'm not going to let this get me down because I know it's worth it. The young people who Scouting has the potential of changing their lives are worth it. But more importantly to me, the hundreds of adult volunteers who give up their time week in, week out, are worth it.

It's been a challenging year that's seen our youth membership down, mainly because Sections have closed, or merged, due to a lack of adult volunteers. It's very sad to see Beaver Colonies, Cub Packs, Scout Troops and Explorer Scout Units close, but without more adults coming forward this is inevitable.

We have made huge steps however this year in supporting the adults we have got. Training was in a pretty low place this time last year, mainly due to the loss of our online member database, Compass. Our records were all over the place because of this and it's taken a huge amount of work to sort this out. Huge thanks to Jill Lewis and Sue Lister for their hard work on this.

Other areas of increased support have been ensuring more information is available on our District website - rather than relying on Facebook, we held a Group Executive Committee workshop, and we reviewed the District budget so we have a plan to ensure the best use of our part of the Membership Fee.

Hopefully the District Team is now much more visible due to our #JoinIns where team members come along to Section meetings and get stuck in with activities. These are a great way for us to meet all the Leaders and young people, but also for all the Leaders to be able to put names to faces.

Work on Youth Shaped Scouting continues: Sam took over from Steven as District Youth Commissioner, and three Assistant District Youth Commissioners were appointed - welcome to Katie, Max & Tom, and thanks to Steven and Sam. We held #YouShape month consultations at three District events: the Beavers voted to go to Gulliver's World, the Cubs chose Cox Wood as the venue for their autumn camp, and the Scouts decided Croatia was where they'd be heading for their summer expedition in 2018.

As the title of this report suggests, it's been a year of celebration. The Beaver Scouts held a party and sleepover to mark their 30th birthday, together with many other activities throughout the year. Thank you Colleen and Teresa. For the Cubs, their centenary was marked with lots of Cubs100 events culminating in a fantastic Promise Party at Chirk Castle. Thanks to Sue Mort for the fantastic events she puts on.

The Scouts travelled to Switzerland in the summer, went on a long hike along Offa's Dyke, and welcomed Aaron Wright as their new ADC taking over from Dave Drew. Many thanks to Dave and Aaron.

Members of K2 Explorer Scout Unit spend two weeks in the Czech Republic, and Explorers from across the District took part in the return of the Area event Gladstonbury. Kelvin Vernon took on the role of District Explorer Scout Commissioner (Programme) ensuring that we have a great District programme for this vital Section, and I was delighted to announce this week that Adrian Bryan will be starting as District Explorer Scout Commissioner (Unit Support) providing overall leadership for the Section this Easter.

All of this activity both at District level and in the Groups and Units has resulted in a huge increase on the number of Chief Scout's Awards that will be presented to young people at tonight's AGM. This was a particular target of ours over the last 12 months so it's great to see.

The District Executive Committee have had a particularly challenging year with some real meaty issues where decisions impact the future of Scouting and the wider community. My thanks to Mike Meadows and the rest of the Exec. As Mike mentions in his report above, he is standing down this time, so I'd like to pay tribute for the fair, measured and impartial judgement he brought to the role.

So, it's been a busy year, and there's no signs of anything quietening down any time soon!

None of this would be possible without all the adult volunteers AND Young Leaders who devotedly put on fantastic programmes, help with admin and provide such excellent leadership for Scouting in Wrexham District.

Yes, sometimes the challenges Scouting sets us seem at the time more than we can manage, but we get over these because we know it's worth it.

Thank you so much for everyone who helps to make Scouting in Wrexham what it is.

**Moz Morris**



6th Wrexham Beaver Scouts at Remembrance Sunday

# What does Wrexham District do?

As a District we have many functions which keep us really busy...



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



**Links** Maintaining links between our District and our neighbours, be they other Scouting Districts and Areas or external bodies, is essential



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



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



**Recognition** Ensuring that we shout about our successes and recognise those who help us achieve them!



K2 Explorer Scout Unit visit to HMP Berwyn

# Youth Awards

## Chief Scout's Bronze Award

### 1st Bwlchgwyn

Ashton Frost  
William Morris  
Jack Topsham  
James Marsh

### 1st Coedpoeth

Brynley Stillings  
Oliver Coull

### 1st Gwersyllt

Callum Evans  
Ethan Challoner

### 1st Hope

Daniel Davies

### 1st Moss

Miya Brennan

### 1st Rhosnesni

Vinnie Whelan  
Iwan Jones  
Rhys Cunningham  
Sam Matthews  
Alfie Wilson  
Sarah Williams  
Noah Griffiths-Edwards  
Daniel Edwards  
Beata Vening

### 41st Wrexham

Ryan Brown

### 6th Wrexham

Joseph Jones  
Charlie Farr

## Chief Scout's Silver Award

### 1st Bwlchgwyn

Cerys Evans  
Matthew Wright  
Lottie Lacey  
Lois Jones  
Darcey Williams  
Tegan Walsh

### 1st Gwersyllt

Evan Owens  
Rhian Hughes

### 1st Hope

Mathew Smith

Oliver Price  
Celyn Jones  
Hayden Jones  
Jack Roberts

### 1st Marchwiel

Lucas Oftedal-Jones  
Cameron Roberts

### 1st Moss

Celyn Jones  
Tomas Holland  
Joshua Prince

### 1st Overton

George Parry

### 1st Rhosnesni

Libby Cole

### 41st Wrexham

Jamie Barlow

### 6th Wrexham

Joshua Williams  
Iwan Peagram

## Chief Scout's Gold Award

### 1st Bwlchgwyn

Andrew Jones  
Euan Ketteringham-Harvey  
Kate Morris  
Jack Edwards

### 1st Coedpoeth

Nathan Miller

### 1st Esclusham

Hannah Maddocks  
Emma Jones

### 1st Gwersyllt

Kaia Dodman  
Sarah Marles  
Nyah Davies

### 1st Hope

Luke Holt  
Dylan Henfrey-Collins  
Rachel Gittens  
David Jones

### 1st Rossett

David Morris  
Simon Morris

### 41st Wrexham

Sophie Knapper  
Jake Knapper

## **Chief Scout's Platinum Award & Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze**

**Phoenix ESU**  
Madie Rouse

## **Chief Scout's Diamond Award & Duke of Edinburgh's Silver**

**K2 ESU**  
Alex Rogers

## **Young Leader Belt**

Rohan Patel – 6th Wrexham Beavers  
Owen Kelly – Bishop's Own Scouts  
James Pitt – Bishop's Own Scouts  
Bronwyn Rowlands – Coedpoeth Beavers  
Micha Dodman – Rhosnesni Beavers  
Oliver Williams – Gwersyllt Beavers



**Cubs100 Promise Party at Chirk Castle**

# Adult Awards

## **Bar to the Silver Acorn**

**In recognition of further specially distinguished service to Scouting**

Gerry Lister

## **Silver Acorn**

**In recognition of specially distinguished service to Scouting**

Jill Lewis

## **Award for Merit**

**In recognition of outstanding service to Scouting**

Russell Butterworth

James Graham

David Huyton

Unfortunately, due to issues with our Scouts membership database, we don't have records for all our Long Service Awards and Wood Badges awarded this year

We'd like to apologise to those concerned, but nevertheless congratulate them and thank them for all their hard work

Tom Roberts

4h ago



Segways

# Last year...

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting at Maes Gwyn Hall Wrexham on Saturday 23rd April 2016

## **Welcome and Introductions by District Chair**

### **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from; Steven Brown, Dorothy Lesbirel, Rosemary Corbett-Thomas, Sandra and Chris Jones, Wendy and Geoff Thomas

### **Approval of minutes from the AGM held in April 2015**

The Minutes were proposed by D Drew and seconded by E Jones. 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 and accepted by the meeting.

### **Approval of the District Commissioner's nomination for Chairperson**

The District Commissioner (DC) proposed Mike Meadows for the post of District Chairperson. All present were in agreement.

### **Nomination and election of District Secretary**

Sue Lister proposed Dave Cheesbrough for the post of District Secretary seconded by Adrian Bryan and accepted by all present

### **Nomination and approval of District Treasurer**

Karen Cheesbrough was nominated by Adrian Bryan and seconded by Gerry Lister. All present accepted.

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

DC nominates Jim Butcher, Sue Lister and Alison Dwight. All accepted by the meeting

### **Nomination and election of members to serve on the Executive Committee**

Nominations were Jill Lewis, Elliott Jones, Adrian Bryan and Ian MacLean was co-opted Duly accepted by the meeting.

### **Appointment of Honorary Auditor**

This appointment was confirmed as Coxkeys of Wrexham

### **Election of a representative to the Area Scout Council**

Mat Lewis was proposed by Jim Butcher and seconded by Adrian Bryan. Duly accepted by the meeting.

### **Election of a representative to the Gladstone Centre Committee**

Steve Davies was nominated to represent the District on the above committee.

### **Election of Members for the Cox Wood Sub Committee**

DC nominates Mike Meadows for the post of Cox Wood Chair. Karen Cheesbrough nominates Sue Lister as Cox Wood Secretary. Seconded by Chris McLean. Sue Lister nominates Karen Cheesbrough as Cox Wood Treasurer. Seconded by Jill Lewis and adopted. Other members nominated are Scott Bailey, Kelvin Vernon, Ian Maclean and Josh Hughes. All the above were accepted by the meeting

Following the conclusion of the above official matters the district Chair informed the meeting that all Officers and Members of the District Executive were available to answer questions. He then brought the meeting to a close.

# Accounts

## WREXHAM DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL Receipts and Payments Account

Year start date

Year end date

For the year  
from

1-Jan-16

31-Dec-16

### Receipts and payments

	2016	2015 £
<b>Receipts</b>		
<b>Donations, legacies and similar income</b>		
Membership subscriptions	39,514	41,031
Less: Membership subscriptions paid on (National/County/Area)	- 34,224	(37,548)
Net membership subscriptions retained	5,290	3,483
Donations		- 0
Loans	- 0	0
Gift Aid - ESU	876	1,366
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>6,166</b>	<b>4,850</b>
<b>Grants</b>		
Cox Wood - CFAP Grant		0
Youth Strategy Grant - Activity Training	1,335	1,600
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>1,335</b>	<b>1,600</b>
<b>Fundraising (gross)</b>		
Scout Shop Sales	11,609	9,755
Badge Secretary Sales	3,486	3,626
Coxwood	11,138	14,995
Explorer Scout Unit	30,022	8,857
District and Groups	40,843	14,394
Training	- 0	330
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>97,098</b>	<b>51,957</b>
<b>Investment income</b>		
Bank interest & Short term investments		
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service	95	122
District HQ Rent & Car Park Rent	3,589	2,494
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>3,684</b>	<b>2,617</b>
<b>Total Gross Income</b>	<b>108,284</b>	<b>61,023</b>
<b>Asset and investment sales, etc.</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>108,284</b>	<b>61,023</b>

# WREXHAM DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

## Receipts and Payments Account

For the year  
from

1-Jan-16

31-Dec-16

### Receipts and payments

	2016	2015
		£
<b>Payments</b>		
<b>Premises Costs</b>		
District Headquarters	7,482	9,620
Coxwood Campsite	6,222	8,389
Explorer Scout Units	34,761	12,141
<b>Donations</b>		
Scout Active Support		- 0
District Grants & Donations	1,020	1,600
<b>Administration Expenses</b>		
Support Teams, Training & Administration	597	520
<b>Depreciation</b>	3,620	5,259
<b>Activities</b>		
District Section Activities	43,548	12,448
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>97,250</b>	<b>49,978</b>
<b>Fundraising expenses</b>		
Scout Shop - Cost of Sales & Expenses	8,598	7,251
Badge Secretary - Cost of Sales & Expenses	3,497	3,290
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>12,095</b>	<b>10,541</b>
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>109,345</b>	<b>60,519</b>
<b>Assets and Purchases - Grant Assisted</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>109,345</b>	<b>60,519</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	-	1,061
<b>Fund Balances brought forward</b>	<b>89,328</b>	<b>85,997</b>
<b>Fund Balances carried forward</b>	<b>88,267</b>	<b>86,501</b>

### Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

	For the year from	1-Jan-16	31-Dec-16
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash at bank & in hand		61,385	62,063
Debtors			0
Loans to Scout Groups			0
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service		12,250	12,250
National Savings account		3,233	3,214
<b>Total cash funds</b>		<b>76,868</b>	<b>77,527</b>
<b>Other monetary assets</b>			
<b>Sub total</b>			<b>0</b>
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Coxwood Site Development & Machinery - written down value		5,815	5,694
District Equipment - written down value		1,828	1,241
Explorer Scout Unit Equipment - written down value		501	816
<b>Sub total</b>		<b>8,143</b>	<b>7,751</b>
<b>Non monetary assets for charity's own use</b>			
Badge stock		1,374	1,625
Shop stock		3,130	3,879
<b>Sub total</b>		<b>4,504</b>	<b>5,503</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Accounts not yet paid		0	0
Activity Grant not yet utilised		200	0
K2 ESU - Croatia Fund		0	59
Section funds held over		1,049	5,829
<b>Sub total</b>		<b>1,249</b>	<b>5,888</b>
<b>Net Assets Less Liabilities</b>		<b>88,267</b>	<b>84,894</b>

*Represented by:-*

<b>General Fund</b>	88,267	84,390
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The above receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on 9th March 2017 (the date of the Executive Committee meeting that approved the accounts) and signed on their behalf by

Signature

**Mr David Morris**

**Mrs Karen Cheesbrough**

District Commissioner

Treasurer



CUBS

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