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A year to remember



**Scouts**

Blackpool

# A year to remember

These are undoubtedly, hugely challenging times – not just for Scouts, but for everyone. We've already experienced a tragic and profound loss of life around the globe, and we don't know how many more lives will be lost. Our way of life has had to change dramatically, and some things will be changed permanently.

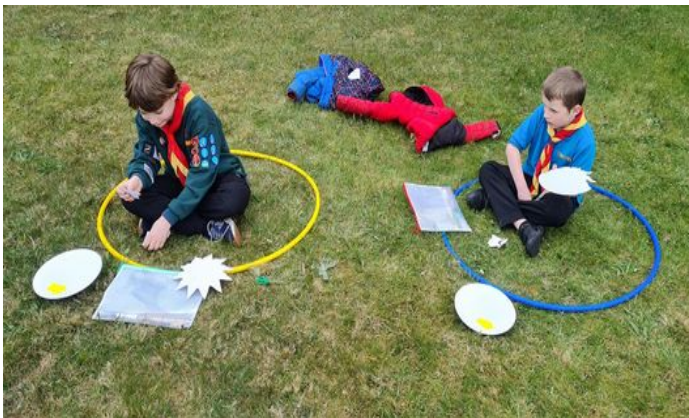
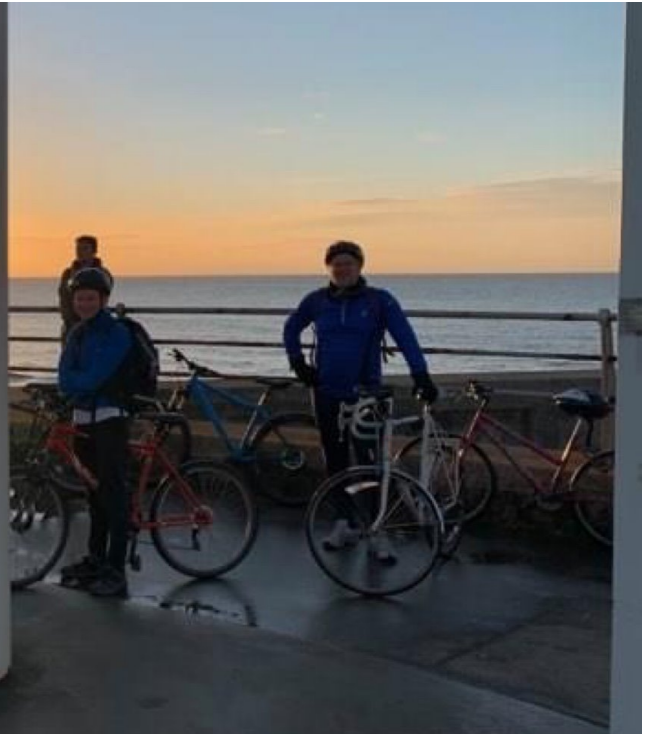
Of course, our main priority – after keeping members safe – is to support them as best we can. We've had a fantastic year of working on Scouts at Home, a tailored programme that members can do without being face-to-face. Whilst following the ever-changing new guidance on how we can operate, we have been resilient and kept going! During this period now we can meet face to face it is amazing to see our volunteers and

young people adapt to new ways of Scouting. Scouts has been through tough times before and we're determined to get through this one too. Resilience, positivity, and collaboration are needed now more than ever.

A huge thank you goes out to all our members, young people and not forgetting parents and guardians who have stepped in as leaders during this period.

We want to celebrate all the achievements from across the year, so had a look at a slightly different annual report. A visual journey of our year to remember.

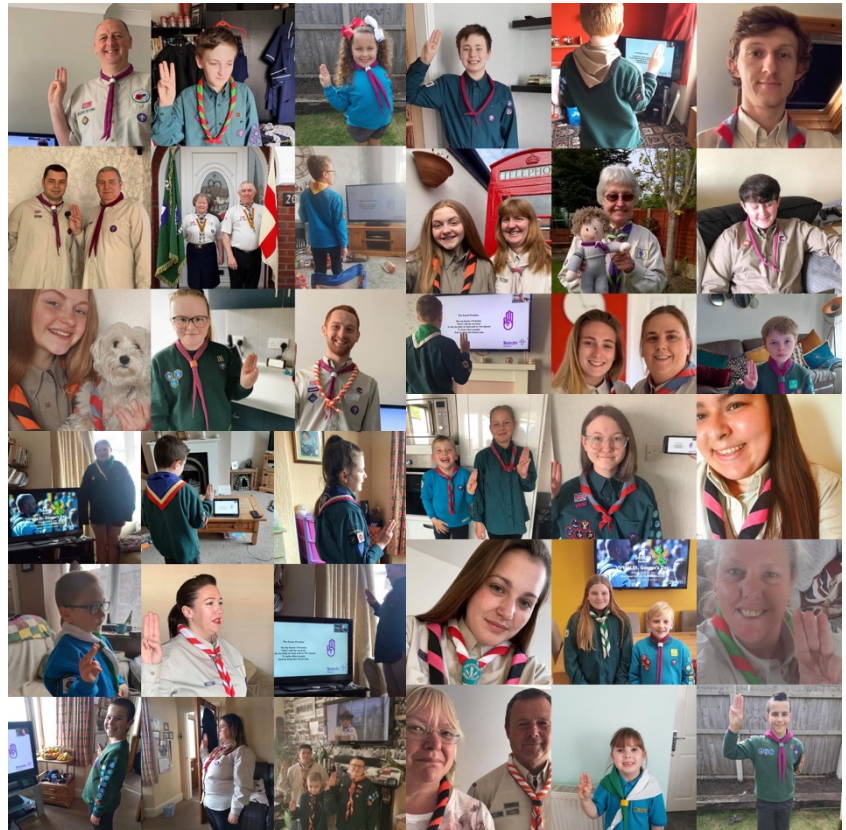
Thank you!  
**District Team & Executive Committee**



# A virtual St. George's Day 2020

So proud of each and every member of the district who joined our online Promise Renewal for St. George's Day 2020.

Despite the circumstance we did not let this stop us! We had over 200 members join us live to renew their promise.



Thank you for joining us on our action-packed weekend of activities from the comfort of home!

It was fantastic to see so many young people and parents getting involved in all the activities.





## A plan B for Jack Lamb Trophy!

Cubs from across Blackpool got stuck in with map reading, knot tying, countryside code and much more in our first (& hopefully last) Virtual Jack Lamb Competition. And the winners are... 24th & 57th Blackpool.



## The mystery of St. George's Day 2021

The mystery of the disappearing parcel was the topic for our 2021 St. George's Day!

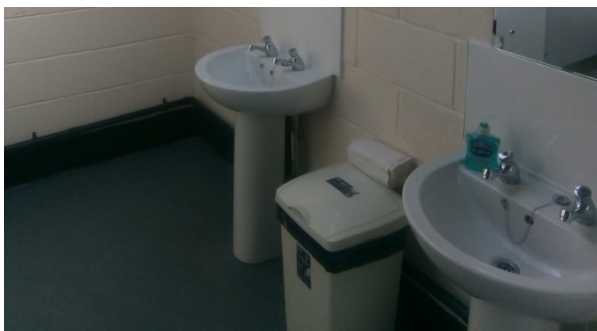
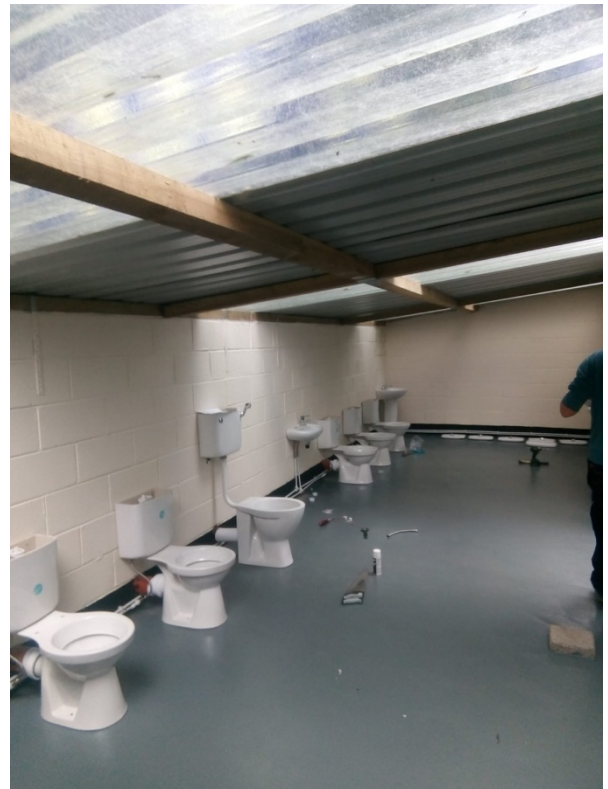
A massive thank you to all our young people, volunteers, parents and guardians who got stuck in with code cracking, puzzle solving fun.



# Mowbreck Campsite

Mowbreck Scout Campsite (Raynor Memorial Training Site) has undergone a massive transformation during 2020/2021, particularly the toilet area and galley.

Our very grateful thanks to each and every one of you who have given your time/energy/knowledge so freely and willingly.





What a year it has been, due to the pandemic our Scouting experience over the last 12-18 months has been severely restricted, but with true 'can do' attitude we have done our best to keep some activities happening. I am proud to be a Scout in Blackpool.

The 2020 and 59th Blackpool Gang Show content was finalised and over 80 cast members signed up, fantastic. Here we go....

What happened next was unprecedented as the country went into lock down! Hence face to face rehearsals were not possible. But there was a hope that we could get going soon and still put on the show in October. We organised and ran online virtual rehearsals and social events to allow some prep for the show and allow cast to chat and get to know each other. Music was recorded, routines were videoed and uploaded to the web site for them to practice along to.

As time passed by we made the difficult decision to postpone the 2020 show and look forward to 2021.

We held some more virtual social events and ran a quiz on World Theatre Day. The new year arrived and another lock down! After speaking with the theatre and reviewing the guidelines, availability of rehearsal premises and comments from cast and crew it was decided to postpone the 2021 show.

Looking forward, 2022 and 60 years of Blackpool Gang Show, we need to celebrate this milestone and put on the best show ever and give an opportunity for past members to be involved. Perhaps even a social event or two.

I encourage all our current members as well as any past and future members to have a think about what we should include in the show, social events to organise and how they want to be involved and get in touch so we can add them into the plan for 2022.

I look forward to a great show, at the iconic Grand Theatre, with a large enthusiastic cast and with the whole District involved in some way.

**Darrell Shuck**  
Director



# Training

It's been a challenging year for training with considerable changes to adult training requirements and to training delivery.

The emphasis on training compliance, particularly Safeguarding and Safety has resulted in many reminders to adults to complete the on-line training, and, although some have needed a little encouragement we are almost fully trained in Safeguarding and Safety within the District. First Aid is now following a similar path.

Diane and I have played a large part in the County training programme to provide on-line sessions for nearly all 'Wood Badge' modules. This has not been easy and has

been very time consuming but has resulted in many of our adults completing modules towards their Wood Badge.

We will continue with the programme of training with face-to-face training scheduled to re-start in September. The challenge now is to validate those who have completed modules; our Training Advisers will need to play a considerable role in that task.

All adults will continue to get reminders about training but, at the end of the day, the responsibility for having training up to date rests with the adult themselves.

**Steve Williamson**  
Training Manager

# Roll of Honour

Congratulations to all in Scouting who have been honoured with awards, it has been a privilege to present Wood Badges, Long Service and Good Service awards to leaders and supporters in all our Sections.

Our congratulations to all who were recognised by Headquarters in the annual St. George's Day award for their continued ongoing contribution, dedication, and loyalty to Scouting in Blackpool.

# Gone Home

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

- Roger Jones
- Cllr Lily Henderson MBE
- Paul Marshall
- Simon Brown
- Stephen Haydon
- Stuart Briggs

# Appointments

In a normal year we schedule meetings at approximately 6 weekly intervals and usually see around 40 candidates over the course of the year. Meetings alternate between 1st Norbreck and 4th Blackpool HQs and we appreciate their continued support.

There were significant changes to DBS procedures to accommodate remote ID verification and from the outset we decided to deal with all renewals centrally and made maximum use of technology to facilitate ID checks.

Forgive me though a little “licence” in extending the report period by 3 months to include Quarter 1 of 2021-2022 ie the start of the recovery period.

Historically there is one other regular cause of delay in completing the appointments process and that is the provision of references. In reviewing

the use of Zoom we also reviewed the provision of references and decided that we would not interview a candidate until two references are received.

We are though just starting to see an uptake in new leaders and as of mid July we have 11 members in pre-provisional roles. Work to do then before the September reopening.

**Brian Paley**  
Appointments Chair