## Blackpool District Scout Council Receipts and Payments account Year Ending 31st March 2018

|                                 |       | 2018     | 2017     | 7        |
|---------------------------------|-------|----------|----------|----------|
|                                 | £     | <u>£</u> | <u>£</u> | <u>£</u> |
| Receipts                        | _     |          |          |          |
| Membership fees received        | 27744 |          | 26350    |          |
| Payments to County              | 23400 |          | 22109    |          |
| , , ,                           |       | 4345     |          | 4242     |
| Interest and dividends received |       | 488      |          | 524      |
| Donations                       |       | 5511     |          | 668      |
| St Georges day/ Founders day    |       | -        |          | -        |
| Training                        |       | 495      |          | 565      |
| Badge account surplus           |       | 1426     |          | -        |
| Dinner Dance income             |       | 7176     |          | 6219     |
| Sundry income                   |       | -        |          | -        |
| Swimming Gala                   |       | 240      |          | 225      |
| District Camp                   |       | 313      |          | -        |
| International fund raising      |       | 629      |          |          |
| Grants received                 |       | -        |          | 7238     |
|                                 |       | 20623    |          | 19680    |
| Section Income                  |       |          |          |          |
| Gang Show income                | 13824 |          | 15141    |          |
| Beaver scout section income     | 411   |          | 3067     |          |
| Cub scout section income        | 21957 |          | 34036    |          |
| Scout Section Income            | 1531  |          | 1393     |          |
| Explorer scout section income   | 6837  |          | 8193     |          |
| Mowbreck income                 | 4355  |          | 4898     |          |
| Mowbreck Beer Festival income   | 6789  |          | 7947     |          |
| SASU income                     | 303   |          | 291      |          |
| Scout Car income                | 2677  |          | -        |          |
| Service Team Income             | 239   |          | -        |          |
| •                               |       | 58923    |          | 74966    |
| Total Receipts                  |       | 79546    |          | 94646    |

# Blackpool District Scout Council Receipts and Payments account Year Ending 31st March 2018

|                                   |       | 201 <u>8</u>          | <u>2017</u>  |       |
|-----------------------------------|-------|-----------------------|--------------|-------|
|                                   | £     | £                     | <u>£</u>     | £     |
| <u>Payments</u>                   |       | 4848                  |              | 4006  |
| Dinner Dance costs                |       | 4040<br>60            |              | 230   |
| Publicity and Promotion           |       | 959                   |              | 942   |
| Insurances                        |       | 2649                  |              | 877   |
| Jamboree/Internationals           |       | 666                   |              | 175   |
| St Georges Day/Founders Day       |       | -                     |              | 300   |
| Funding for Beaver Scouts         |       | _                     |              | 600   |
| Cub Scouts 100                    |       | 495                   |              | 464   |
| Development activities            |       | -                     |              | 654   |
| District Camp                     |       | 2320                  |              | 4598  |
| Training                          |       | 566                   |              | 664   |
| AGM/ Carol Service                |       | 1310                  |              | 903   |
| District Expenses                 |       | 260                   |              | 540   |
| Storage costs Swimming Gala       |       | 160                   |              | 958   |
| Badge Account deficit             |       | -                     |              | 24    |
| District Football                 |       | -                     |              | 95    |
| Other Activities and events       |       | 243                   |              | 128   |
|                                   |       | 14536                 |              | 16160 |
| Section Costs                     |       |                       |              |       |
| Gang Show costs                   | 13290 |                       | 13506        |       |
| Beaver scout section costs        | 635   |                       | 1791         |       |
| Cub scout section costs           | 23168 |                       | 28524        |       |
| Scout Section costs               | 1403  |                       | 1558<br>6048 |       |
| Explorer scout section costs      | 9942  |                       | 759          |       |
| SASU costs                        | 164   |                       | 759<br>3937  |       |
| Mowbreck costs                    | 2098  |                       | 3937         |       |
| Scout Car costs                   | 2631  |                       | 7032         |       |
| Mowbreck Beer Festival costs      | 5377  |                       | 1032         |       |
| Service Team costs                | 161   | E0069                 | -            | 63155 |
|                                   |       | <u>58868</u><br>73404 |              | 79315 |
| Total Payments                    |       | / 3404                |              |       |
| Net Surplus/(Deficit)for the year |       | 6142                  |              | 15331 |

# Blackpool District Scout Council Statement of Assets and Liabilities Year Ending 31st March 2018

|  | Year Ending 5                    | 13t mai a              | 0047                     |                         |
|--|----------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
|  | <u>2018</u>                      | <u>£</u>               | <u>2017</u><br><u>£</u>  | Ē                       |
| Assets  Monetary balances (cash and bank)  |                                  | 94026                  |                          | 89404                   |
| Investment assets Scout short term investment fund Rayner funds: 668.6 units in the Cha Investment Fund at Valuation | 26650<br>rities Office -<br>9508 | <u>36158</u><br>130184 | 26650<br>9478            | 36128<br>125532         |
| Mon-monetary assets  Mowbreck Training centre at cost Stock of badges at cost Office Equipment Trophies              | 883<br>3351<br>610<br>280        | <u>5124</u><br>135308  | 883<br>3399<br>610<br>80 | <u>5172</u><br>130704   |
| Loans To groups/sections   |                                  | 100<br>135408          |                          | 100<br>130804           |
| <u>Liabilities</u> Due to groups   |                                  | <u> </u>               |                          |                         |
| Represented by  Reserves brought forward  Net surplus/(deficit) for the year Increase/(reduction) in value of in     | vestment funds                   | 131400<br>6142<br>30   |                          | 114780<br>15331<br>1289 |
| Reserves carried forward   | note 2                           | 137572                 | note 2                   | 131400                  |

### Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of the Blackpool District Scout Council

I report on the accounts of the district for the year ending 31st march 2018 which are set out on pages 1 to 3

#### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The districts trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- -1 examine the accounts under section145 of the 2011 act
- -2 to follow the procedureslaid down in the general diections given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b)of the 2011 act; and
- -3 to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### Basis of independent examiners report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting recordskept by the Districtand a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual itms or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

#### Independent examiners statement

In connection with my examination, no other matter has come to my attention:

- a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material aspect the requirement to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 act have not been met; or
- b) which in my opinion,attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Mike Heed 6 Hexham Ave

Thornton Cleveleys

FY5 2NP

Dated 2 July 2018-

#### Blackpool District Scout Council Notes to the Accounts Year Ending 31st March 2018

#### Note 1 Cash at bank and in hand

|                          | 2018  | 2017  |
|--------------------------|-------|-------|
| Exec accounts            |       |       |
| Caf bank current account | 8177  | 302   |
| Caf bank gold account    | 48101 | 48189 |
| Raynor account           | 1974  | 1645  |
| Jamboree Account         | 198   | 198   |
| Badge Account            | -     | 3548  |
| <b>G</b>                 | 58450 | 53882 |
| Section Accounts         |       |       |
| Explorers                | 1533  | 4638  |
| Mowbreck                 | 4760  | 2503  |
| Beer Festival            | 5412  | 4000  |
| Gang Show                | 15440 | 14906 |
| Cubs                     | 5388  | 6599  |
| Beavers                  | 1078  | 1302  |
| Scouts                   | 252   | 124   |
| SASU                     | 1017  | 878   |
| Service Team             | 379   | 301   |
| Scout Car Races          | 317   | 271   |
|                          | 35576 | 35522 |
|                          |       |       |
| Total                    | 94026 | 89404 |

#### Blackpool District Scout Council Notes to the Accounts continued Year Ending 31st March 2018

# Note 2 **Analysis of Reserves**

|                             | 2018   | 2017   |
|-----------------------------|--------|--------|
| Total Reserves              | 137572 | 131400 |
| less:                       |        |        |
| Non monetary assets         | 5124   | 5172   |
|                             |        |        |
| Restricted Funds            |        |        |
| Raynor Bequest              | 11482  | 11123  |
| Butterworth Bequest         | 15378  | 15378  |
|                             |        |        |
| Designated Funds            |        | 0000   |
| Jamboree and Internationals | 2622   | 2892   |
| Badge account               | -      | 3548   |
| Mowbreck                    | 4760   | 2503   |
| Beer Festival               | 5412   | 4000   |
| Explorers                   | 1533   | 4638   |
| Gang Show                   | 15440  | 14906  |
| SASU                        | 1017   | 878    |
| Service Team                | 379    | 301    |
| Scout Cars                  | 317    | 271    |
| Youth United Funds          | 3790   | 7238   |
| Future events               |        | 7100   |
| M'ship fees                 | 23000  | 23000  |
| Free Reserves               | 47318  | 36639  |
|                             |        |        |

#### **Reserves Policy**

The District mainly raises its running costs from its members and has limited capacity for other fund raising, therefore the trustees exercise a prudent approach to their free reserves policy: the trustees will initiate additional fund raising when free reserves fall to below the equivalent of 2 years annual costs measured against the latest Executive Income and Expenditure account or the forward budget plan.

#### **Donations**

We gratefully acknowlege the following generous contributors to our fund raising this year:
Peter Greathead, the memory of Ron Loomes, Derek Abott Cleveleys Park Lodge, Lancashire Police
and Swallowdale. We also continue to benefit from the legacy of Mrs Patricia Butterworth.



# BLACKPOOL DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2017 – 2018

www.blackpoolscouts.org,uk

info@blackpoolscouts.org.uk

**Blackpool District Scout Council is a Registered Charity 521534** 



@BlackpoolScouts; @BpoolBeavers; @BpoolCubs; @BpoolScouts; @BpoolExplorers; @BpoolGangShow; @blackpoolDYC



/blackpoolscouts /blackpoolbeavers /blackpoolcubs /blackpoolexplorers /blackpoolnetwork /blackpoolgangshow /blackpooldyc



**Blackpool Scouts** 



INSTAGRAM: BlackpoolScouts

#### **TRUSTEES**

| President:                 | Councillor Mrs Lily Henderson MBE                   |  |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| Vice-Presidents:           | Christine Fitton BEM JP                             |  |
|                            | Peter Greathead                                     |  |
|                            | Geoff Platt   |  |
|                            | Neville Wiseman FCA                                 |  |
| District Chairman:         | Katherine O'Connor                                  |  |
| District Commissioner:     | Victoria DaSilva MBE                                |  |
| District Secretary:        | Elizabeth Abbott                                    |  |
| Acting District Treasurer: | Brian Paley   |  |
| Honorary Auditor:          | Michael Heed  |  |
| Executive Committee:       |   |  |
| Ex Officio                 | Councillor Mrs Lily Henderson MBE                   |  |
|                            | Katherine O'Connor                                  |  |
|                            | Victoria DaSilva MBE                                |  |
|                            | Elizabeth Abbott                                    |  |
|                            | Joe Ashworth (part year)/Joanna Hacking (part year) |  |
|                            | Jordan Shuck  |  |
|                            | Emily Jackson                                       |  |
|                            |   |  |
| Nominated                  | Christine Fitton BEM JP                             |  |
|                            | Brian Paley   |  |
|                            | Geoff Platt   |  |
|                            | Joan Swan   |  |
|                            | Steve Williamson                                    |  |
|                            |   |  |
| Elected                    | Joanna Hacking*                                     |  |
|                            | Matthew Hornby (due to retire)                      |  |
|                            | Paul Marshall*                                      |  |
|                            | Dorothy Mather (due to retire)                      |  |
|                            | Diane Parkinson*                                    |  |
|                            | *Elected at 2017 AGM                                |  |
|                            | Retired at AGM in July 2017:                        |  |
|                            | Mike Barnes, Steven Platt, Rachel Tax               |  |
|                            |   |  |

| Blackpool District | Paul Maynard MP |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Scout Ambassadors: | Georgia Shiels  |
|                    | Ged Mills       |
|                    | Hayley Kay      |
|                    | From June 2018: |
|                    | Lucy Fallon     |
|                    | Nicola Thorp    |

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#### **DISTRICT OFFICIALS**

| District Commissioner:                | Victoria DaSilva MBE  |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Deputy District Commissioners:        | Matthew Hornby and Joan Swan                                  |
| ADC Adventurous Activities:           | Steve Williamson  |
| ADC Beavers:                          | Jane Platt  |
| ADC Cubs:                             | Ted Cooper  |
| ADC Scouts:                           | Stewart Swan  |
| District Explorer Scout Commissioner: | Joanna Hacking (part year)/Matthew Hornby (part year)         |
| District Network Commissioner:        | Emily Jackson   |
| District Youth Commissioner:          | Jordan Shuck  |
| Deputy District Youth Commissioners   | Ben Hughes and Tayler Kippax (from July 2017)                 |
|                                       | Emily Platt and Emily Parkinson-Swift (to Sept. 2017)         |
| ADC International:                    | Peter Rumley  |
| Appointments Secretary:               | Brian Paley   |
| Leader Training Manager:              | Liz Goldsack  |
| Training Team:                        | David Allen, Eileen Hagen, Dorothy Mather, Mark Stubbs, Karen |
|                                       | Ticehurst, and Sara Tax                                       |
| Service Team Manager:                 | Bernie Ashworth   |
| SASU Manager:                         | Irene Wheatley  |
| Beaver Scout District team:           | Ann Clayton, Emma Hornby, John Sanderson, Irene Wheatley      |
|                                       | and Sarah Whiteside   |
| Cub Scout District Team:              | Nichola Bonsor, Stephen Chow, Gordon Clark, Alan Goodwin,     |
|                                       | Sylvia Johns and Alicia Platt                                 |
| Scout District Team:                  | Stephen Brownwood, Stephen Haydon, Stephen Joyce and          |
|                                       | Diane Parkinson   |
| District Explorer Scout Leader:       | Joe Ashworth (part year)/Joanna Hacking (part year)           |
| District Recruitment Team:            | Christine Fitton BEM JP and Phil Wheatley                     |
| District Welfare Manager:             | Christine Fitton BEM JP                                       |
| Gang Show Director                    | Darrell Shuck   |
| Gang Show Business Manager            | Steve Smith   |
| Media and Comms Manager:              | Matthew Hornby  |
| Media and Comms Team:                 | Cordelia Bartlett, James Howarth, Andy Nicholls, Imogen Scarr |
|                                       | and Jordan Shuck  |
| Mowbreck Managers:                    | Tony Ashworth and Louise Ashworth                             |
| Promotion and Publicity Manager:      | Philip Mather   |
| Young Leaders Co-ordinator:           | Steve Williamson and Annastasia Bartlett                      |
| Badge Secretaries:                    | Dave Cooke (part year)  |
|                                       | David Hind and Susan Hind (part year)                         |

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#### DISTRICT COMMISSIONER'S REPORT - Victoria DaSilva MBE

I am extremely proud to say that this has been another impressive year for Blackpool District – and a busy one as well!

I would like to start my report this year by thanking you all in the District for your commitment and dedication to help Scouting flourish in Blackpool, whether directly through supporting our young people through the section programmes and activities and those who provide guidance and support to ensure our District runs efficiently and effectively.

This year I have visited sections, events and activities and each one has been a marvellous experience and privilege. I enjoy seeing the varied, worthwhile and exciting programme that you offer our young people and speaking with all our family, from our youngest members through the ages to our older leaders, supporters and parents.

There is a considerable amount of planning and hard work that occurs to ensure we have an exciting and balanced Scouting programme throughout the year. I am extremely grateful and thank everyone who has helped and supported Scouting in Blackpool.

I am pleased and proud to present this Annual Report which reflects the diversity of the programme of activities that we have been involved with. All our members are passionate about making Scouting inclusive for all, particularly in some of our communities. The activities in this report are those enjoyed across the District which is in addition to the weekly section programmes that our Leaders devise for our young people to learn new skills, meet new friends and have fun.

Our District Youth Commissioner Jordan and his Deputies have been ensuring our programme is relevant for today's young people. Scouting changes lives and makes a tremendous impact on the young people in our care. This has involved preparing resources for the Explorer Young Leaders to help them complete their missions and training to achieve the YL Belt. They also supported #YouShape month in February, visiting Groups and helping young people to shape their Scouting adventures in partnership with Adults.

We have also maintained a high and very positive media profile, through our regular column in the Gazette, our own newsletter which cascades important information and events, our Facebook and Twitter accounts and our recently refreshed website reflecting the new Scout branding and contains details of future events and photographs of past events. Our media team comprise many young people who are learning valuable communication skills and we are always on the lookout for other people to join in.

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I would also like to thank the wider Scouting family in West Lancashire and especially Steve Morton and Barbara Hughes as well as other county leaders for their support to Blackpool.

In more detail I will start with our Youth Sections and their activities at a District level followed by other events that have taken place another busy year for Blackpool Scouting.



The Beaver section has had a very active programme this year and the youngest members of Scouting have enjoyed many activities, including creative challenges, scouting skills and exciting visits. We were delighted to hold our Chief Scout's Bronze Awards at Blackpool Zoo on 5 June 2017 where 28 young people were awarded – congratulations to all. The Alan Barnes competition at Blackpool Zoo on 16 June 2017 was won by 8<sup>th</sup> Blackpool, with runners up 6<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> Blackpool – a fantastic

afternoon was had by all.

On 30 September we held a Beaver Scout Bake-Off which was won by 24<sup>th</sup> Blackpool and runners up were the 11<sup>th</sup> and 37<sup>th</sup> Blackpool. Blackpool Beavers were also winners at the West Lancashire Beavers Bake-Off. Our young people came up with wonderful designs. The District Quiz on 23 February was won by 10<sup>th</sup> Blackpool who then went with 1st Norbreck Scout and Guide Group to represent Blackpool District Scouts at the County Quiz. In February, we had over 120 Beaver Scouts who attended 1<sup>st</sup> Norbreck and enjoyed a variety of activities ending the day with a Camp Fire.



The Jack Lamb 'Scouting Skills' competition took place at Mowbreck Scout Training Campsite with 51<sup>st</sup> Blackpool being the eventual winners. In May we had the annual JOTT walk over three miles and over 300 members of the District took part. Commissioners Flag took place at the Zoo on 2 July and was won by 4<sup>th</sup> Blackpool.

Also in summer, the Cubs had a great time with constructing their Sandcastles with 6th Blackpool winning and 51<sup>st</sup> Blackpool were in second and 13<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> Blackpool in third place. We also celebrated over 30 Cubs receiving their Chief Scout's Silver Award in Blackpool Council Chamber. September saw the link camp between Cubs and Scouts at Mowbreck where many activities were enjoyed. On 30 September Blackpool Cubs also enjoyed an activity day with other West Lancashire Cubs at Waddecar.

In October, a group of Cubs and Leaders enjoyed a short break in London where they visited the Tower of London, Harry Potter studios and the Natural History Museum. In January we had the Sixers and Seconders Day at 1<sup>st</sup> Norbreck and an enjoyable day was had by all.

Congratulations to our team from Blackpool Cubs who have won the West Lancashire County Chess Competition 2018. This is the first time in 20 years Blackpool Cub Scouts have won this competition. Well done to all who took part. We also had an enjoyable and informative visit to see the Terracotta Warriors at the World Museum in Liverpool on 23 February.



On 12-14 May, there was a good turnout of Scouts from Blackpool attending the County Rally at Waddecar and there was a Patrol Leaders Day where new skills were learnt. In May, Scouts joined the JOTT walks and we had the inaugural Tower Challenge which was a Cub/Scout linking activity which was won by 4<sup>th</sup> Blackpool, with runners up 7<sup>th</sup> Blackpool and 1<sup>st</sup> Norbreck. The Tower Challenge involves

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making structures from dowelling and elastic bands, the first exercise was making a cube and then the teams had 20 minutes to make a Tower.

In September, Scouts attended the County PL's Forum held at Fylde on the 14<sup>th</sup> and the weekend of 22-24 September was the link camp at Mowbreck which is held to encourage older Cubs and Scouts to work together. On 25 November there was the Explorers/Scout event at Waddecar which was an escape and evade hike. On the weekend of 17/18 February 2018, there was the Bowlander training held at Waddecar and Beacon Fell and the Troop into March, which were attended by Blackpool Scouts and troops representing Blackpool were from the 7<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 37<sup>th</sup> Blackpool.

On 25 February the Scouts cookery competition was held, this new competition is loosely based on 'Ready Steady Cook' and 15 teams of Scouts cooked a one course meal from mystery ingredients which was won by 1<sup>st</sup> Norbreck. The Scouts enjoyed it so much that it's going to become a regular fixture in the calendar. On 16 March there was the Road Safety Competition which was won by 1<sup>st</sup> Norbreck. Scouts from 5<sup>th</sup> Blackpool won the Scout Section trophy at the Swimming Gala in March. The President's Flag was won by 51<sup>st</sup> Blackpool.

We were delighted that a number of Scouts earned their Chief Scout's Gold Award, congratulations to all who achieved this high accolade.



It has been another active year in the Explorer section and some great achievements have been made.

Massive congratulations to the Blackpool District Explorer team who took part in the Mountain Activity Challenge, a West Lancashire competition, and won the Gold level. In addition to the usual programme items we have had both units take on the Escape Room challenge which thankfully both escaped, sumo-wrestled at Summer Camp, carried out some on-site service at Great Tower on the county-run Environment weekend, swung through trees and ice-axed up Helvellyn on our winter camp. The Explorers and Young Leaders also took part in International activities.

We also held a link event with the Scouts called 'Who Dares Wins' which was designed and planned by Dan Barber, Explorer Scout and at the time was the Chair of the West Lancashire Explorer Scout committee.

Eight members received their Chief Scout's Platinum Award in 2017 and some are now well on their way to achieving their Diamond. Well done to all for this great achievement and hard work.

It has also been a very productive year for the Young Leaders who have also had some great achievements and six have been awarded their Young Leader belts.

Blackpool District Scouts is very fortunate to have some 50 plus YL Explorer Scouts who have taken on leadership roles with Beaver, Cub and Scout sections. Part of the commitment that they take is to undergo training to help them in their role and to ensure that they are aware of the responsibilities

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they are taking on. During the latter part of 2017 and early 2018 over 20 completed their first module (A) and most completed the other 8 in the scheme, a considerable time commitment on their part.

The training sessions have involved all the aspects of leadership and the enthusiasm of those taking part has been tremendous. The opportunity to meet with other Young Leaders has opened their horizons and shown that there is a lot in common in the way they are working with the many different sections.

The remaining challenge leading to the award of the Young Leaders Belt is to complete 4 missions while working with their section.

There are many Young Leaders who are also active Explorer Scouts in the units and as such give a lot of their time to Scouting as well as juggling school, college and exam pressures.

Network had a quieter year in 2017-18, however we are delighted that Network has been relaunched so watch this space for more exciting activity which has already commenced.

I'm confident that 2018 will be another great year for all our young people.

There have been a range of District Activities that have involved young people and adult leaders and helpers from Blackpool, starting with an enjoyable fundraising event, the St George's Day Dinner and Dance held at Blackpool Football Club on 21 April 2017.

The same weekend on 23 April, we held our St George's Day celebrations in Stanley Park, where we enjoyed a variety of activities including the Art Attack project make out of clothing which was then donated to the Salvation Army. The Presidents Flag was carried was carried by 7<sup>th</sup> Blackpool Scouts heading the procession into the Bowl area where we held our Promise renewal ceremony.

Saturday 3 June saw beautiful weather for the Annual Mowbreck Beer Festival which was attended and enjoyed by older members and guests.

The following weekend from 7 – 9 June was the successful District Camp at Bibby's Farm near Chorley where over 800 young people and volunteers enjoyed a weekend of activity, which included canoeing, rock climbing, archery, zip wires, crate building, camp fires and generally having a great time. The Youth Commissioner's District Challenge took place with various activities with the 44<sup>th</sup> Blackpool winning.

June also saw members of the District attend the annual Pride Festival held in Blackpool. We have once again been involved in Scout Community Week in June where our Scouts and volunteers got into the community spirit and helped improve their local areas while raising money for Scouting.

On 1 July, a very successful National Scout Car races was held in the Jubilee Gardens at Cleveleys. We had great weather and over 60 teams of Cubs, Scouts, and Explorers from across the UK visited and took part to compete in a full day of pedal car racing. On 10 July we held our Annual General Meeting at Blackpool Football Club where our guest speaker was David Cam, DL BA Barrister, Under Sheriff of the County Palatine of Lancaster.

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We took part in Revoe fun day on 19 August 2017 and in September we helped with the Guide Dog walk through the Illuminations.



Another successful year for Blackpool Gang Show with over 90 people treading the boards at the Globe Theatre at Blackpool Pleasure Beach. This year saw the inception of the Gang Show band where two young cast members played ukuleles live on stage, we are promised more for the 2018 show. The 56<sup>th</sup> Blackpool Gang Show saw the team perform sons

about our home town, entertained with numbers including songs from Oliver, Billy Elliot and Motown favourites. Added to this were the comedy sketches and skits, traditional Gang Show songs and we are proud to say that we have one of the best Gang Shows in the country. Have you got the dates for this years show, Wednesday 24 – Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> October at the Grand Theatre.

There was a good turn out to Remembrance Day service at the Blackpool Cenotaph and I was extremely proud of the comments I received from people saying how smart and well-mannered our young people were.

We held our Carol Concert at the Salvation Army on 6 December and this was attended by many of our young people who took part in the service, providing gifts for those less fortunate.



On the weekend of 17 and 18 February 2018 we selected the four young people who will be representing Blackpool District at the 24<sup>th</sup> World Scout Jamboree to be held 22 July to 10 August 2019 which is being hosted by Canada, Mexico and the United States. The actual camp being held in West Virginia USA at a purpose built campsite at Summit Bechtel. We would also like to say a big

congratulations to the four successful applicants. They are:

Nicole and Josh from 1st Norbreck Young Leaders Reuben and Adam from Blackpool Explorers

There has been a continuing interest in young people attending international events and during this year we have had Cubs, Scouts, Explorers and Leaders experiencing international visits to Mongolia and China, Denmark, Romania and Finland. There has been fundraising activities to help with the cost of visiting the Jamboree and other International events such as the Coffee Mornings arranged by our President and held at St Christopher's Church Hall.

On 14 March 2018, we held our District Swimming Gala at Palatine Leisure Centre. Once again, many of our young people took the opportunity to take part in what is an extremely busy and popular competition.

Mowbreck has continued to welcome a variety of District events, camps and working events. We were delighted that we were successful in receiving £1000 from Tesco to provide tree planting and maintenance of existing trees such as weeding and mulching, with each Group in the District being invited to help. There have been a number of working days and weekends and we thank those who have been out to help with tasks to keep the Blackpool campsite ready for our District events and for other Scouts who come to enjoy a break from further afield.

Training for our Adult Leaders is important and obligatory for all leaders to support them in the leadership of the young people in our care and helps leaders to organise exciting and adventurous

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programmes and outdoor experiences. We take our safeguarding responsibilities extremely seriously and ensure that Safety, Safeguarding and First Aid training is undertaken regularly.



Service Team had another good year, helping at many District and County events, including District Camp, County rally, Mowbreck Beer Festival, competitions, Gang Show, Explorer County Camp, Swimming Gala, Mountain Activity Challenge, St George's Day and service weekends at Great Tower.

Blackpool Active Support Unit have supported a variety of events to support our young people at the Swimming Gala, Commissioners Flag, PG Tower Challenge, District camp, Alan Barnes Trophy, Scout Car Races, Gang Show, Sixers and Seconds Day, PL's Day, Remembrance Sunday and the Carol Service. We have also supported the Guide Dogs Association on their "Walk the Lights" night, the Jamboree Coffee morning at St Christopher's, the opening of the new "@the Grange Centre" on Grange Park and the late Christmas meal held at the No 1 in January 2018.



As you can see from the above, Blackpool District activities have been taking place throughout the year and this doesn't include regular section meetings at Groups, Group events, Blackpool District Scout Council, Section meetings, Activity Meetings, Training, Leaders meetings and Blackpool Executive, so a very busy calendar in 2017-18 and into the future.

We have empowered our young people with the opportunity to shape what we do with our youth forums, young leader training and of course continue to provide Skills for Life for all.

Thank you all for your continued support in whatever way you continue in helping to make Scouting in Blackpool fun and full of adventure.

Yours in Scouting

Victoria DaSilva MBE

**District Commissioner** 

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#### ST GEORGE'S DAY AWARD RECIPIENTS 2017 - ROLL OF HONOUR

Bar to the Silver Acorn Lillian Henderson MBE, District President, Blackpool and District

Silver Acorn Norma Bracegirdle, Group Scout Leader, 24th Blackpool

#### ST GEORGE'S DAY AWARD RECIPIENTS 2018 - ROLL OF HONOUR

Silver Wolf Gordon Clark, District Scout Active Support Member, District Scouter

Bar to the Silver Acorn
Tony Ashworth, District Scouter

Silver Acorn Lesley Meddings, District Scout Active Support Member

**GONE HOME** 



Fiona Hyde (Fee) - 15 May 2017

Andrew Heggie - 3 July 2017

Enid Wilson - 14 August 2017

Jean Sanderson - 19 September 2017

Robert (Bob) Bradley - 3 December 2017

Jack Bower – 23 February 2018

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#### **Scouting**

We help young people develop and improve key life skills.

- Character skills like resilience, initiative, independence and tenacity
- Employability skills like leadership, teamwork and problem solving
- Practical skills like cooking, first aid and coding

#### **Our values**

As Scouts we live by the values of Scouting. They underpin everything we do, how we act and the way we treat each other.

We believe young people deserve the character, employability and practical skills to succeed.

We believe in bringing people together to enjoy fun, friendship and adventure in a place they can belong.

#### #SkillsForLife

We believe that skills for life can prepare better futures:

- for young people by giving them the character, employability and practical skills they need to succeed
- for volunteers by equipping them with better skills, tools and support to deliver inspiring programmes
- for society by bringing people together and improving the lives of those in our communities.

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