



Annual Report 2020



Scouts
Greater Manchester
West

Welcome from our County Chair

I am pleased to present to you the Annual Review and Report for Greater Manchester West Scout County from 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020.

Over this period there has been a huge amount of fun, hard work, dedication and time given. It is always a joy to read the review of activities and reflect on all we have done.

The achievements of the young people are to be commended and celebrated. Congratulations to all who achieved the top award in their section, but also well done to all those who experienced their first night away from home, gained their first activity badge or pushed themselves and grew a little in a new area. Well done to all those young people for doing something extra and new.

I would like to thank the County Executive for their help to support the County Commissioner and his extended County Leadership team in their work across our County and beyond. Even to the far reaches of the United States of America and the World Scout Jamboree. Other international, national and local adventures were backed enabling our County to provide an exciting and wide programme for our members.

To help and support our sectional leaders in providing and monitoring a balance programme, facilitating the progression of young people through the award schemes, the County Executive were delighted to fund the Online Scout Manager (OSM) for all training sections within our County. A fantastic resource.

Reserves put aside for the development of our new campsite at Hollinwood have started to be drawn upon. There is still a great deal of work to be done and much more funding will be required to release all the sites potential. Bispham Hall and Dunham Park continue to thrive and provide a valued resource for leaders and young people. My special thanks to all the campsite staff and management committees.

My thanks for the sterling work undertaken by the appointments committees in ensuring that people with new appointments are valued and supported.

Finally, I would once again like to thank everyone involved, in whatever capacity, for all that you do for the young people of Greater Manchester West. Just at the end of the year the coronavirus pandemic changed our lives and how we offer and experience our incredible Scouting movement. The next 12 months will be very different for us, but with imagination, ongoing enthusiasm and commitment I am confident Scouting will continue to provide much needed fun, friendship and opportunities for young people.



Silver Wolf Award Holders



Mrs Jacqui Aspinall MBE

Mr Bob Haynes

Mr John Bilsborough

Mrs Eileen Johnson

Mr David Copeland

Mr Keith Lang

Mrs Pamela Copeland

Mr David Maltby

Mrs Sylvia Cornish

Mr Brian Mouat

Mrs Vera Crossley JP

Mrs Ann Salt

Mr Hugh Davies

Mr George Sharp

Mr Derek Freeman

Dr Geoff Sides

Mrs Christine Gleaves

Mrs Judith Summersgill

Mr Peter Hart

Mr Alex Waddington

Mrs Pat Haynes

Mr Haydn Worrall

Our County Team

County President

Sir Warren Smith KCVO KStJ JP LLD DLitt
Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Greater Manchester

Vice Presidents

Dr Geoff Sides PhD FICE
Mrs Vera Crossley JP
Colonel Sir John Timmins KCVO OBE KStJ TD DL DSc LLD

Regional Commissioner

Mrs Nisbah Hussain

County Commissioner

Deputy County Commissioners

Mr Andy Farrell
Mr Greg Archer (Adult Support)
Mr Jacob Bond (Programme)
Mrs Daniele Wiseman (Development)

County Youth Commissioner

Deputy Youth Commissioners

Assistant Youth Commissioners

Mr Lewis Foster
Mr Matt Dawson
Miss Amelie Wiseman
Mr James Turner
Mr Troy Wood

County Chair

County Secretary

County Treasurer

Mr Haydn Worrall
Mrs Ann Lam
Mr Roger Kettle

County Appointments Secretary

Asst. County Appts Secretary

County Appts Advisory Committee

Mrs Lyndsay Pollard
Mrs Jacqui Aspinall MBE
Mr Graham Barrick (Chair), Mr Peter Marsh,
Mr Greg Archer, Mr Lewis Foster, Mr Andy Atherall,
Mrs Penny Rothwell-Mason

County Training Manager

Mrs Gemma Higson

Assistant County Commissioners

Mr Jacob Bond (Beaver Scouts)
Miss Siobhan Mullen (Cub Scouts)
Mr Bob Wilson (Scouts)
Mr David Kerrs (Explorer Scouts)
To be advised (Scout Network)
To be advised (Activities)

County Campsite Managers

Mr Chris Hayes and Mr Martin Shaw (Bispham Hall)
Mr David Hughes (Dunham Park)
Mr Ste Butterworth and Mr Mike Dunn (Hollinwood)

Our County Team

Managers / Advisers

Communications Manager	To be advised (Media) Mrs Michele Millington (Newsletter)
Duke of Edinburgh Award Adviser	Mr Phil Bainbridge
Bands Adviser	Mr Jim Field
Gang Show Adviser	Miss Sarah Goodstadt
Queen's Scout Award Coordinator	To be advised
Safeguarding Awareness Coord.	Mrs Nikki Parr Mr Greg Archer
Safety Coordinator	To be advised
Supporter of the NA Permit Scheme	Mr Keith Morris

Assessors

Climbing	Mr Andrew Bradley Mr Neil Gregory Mr Dave Keogh
Hill Walking	Mr Jim Akrill Mr Steve Baker Mr Keith Lang Mr Steve Ralph MBE JP Mr David Smith
Kayaking	Mr Paul Mullineux

County Administrator

Mrs Sue Ralph

District Commissioners

Mr Kenneth Williams (Altrincham)
Miss Susan Leonard (Ellesmere)
Mr Steve Ralph MBE JP (Lilford)
Mr Ryan Swailes (Lowry)
Mr Andy Atherall (Sale)
Mr Matt Osborne (Stretford)
Mr Chris Knowles (Urmston)
Mr Jeff Picton (Wigan)

Local Training Managers

Mr Anthony Roberts (Altrincham)
Miss Georgina Dale (Ellesmere)
Mrs Jane Riley (Lilford)
Mr Justin McDonnell (Lowry)
Mrs Christine Gleaves (Sale)
Mr Anwar Halab (Stretford)
Mr Bill Outhwaite (Urmston)
Mrs Christine Thompson (Wigan)

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2019

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Greater Manchester West County Scout Council held on Tuesday 24th September 2019 at Elm Bank Masonic Hall, Half Edge Lane, Eccles M30 9RE

Present:

Mr Warren Smith KStJ JP DLitt LLD, Lord Lieutenant of Greater Manchester, County President

Mayor of Salford – Councillor Charlie McIntyre

Mayor of Trafford – Councillor Rob Chilton and guest Mrs Marj Powner

Mayor of Wigan – Councillor Stephen Dawber and Consort Mr Oliver Waite

Mr Andrew Farrell, County Commissioner

Mr Haydn Worrall, County Chair, Silver Wolf Holder

Mrs Ann Lam, County Secretary

Mr Roger Kettle, County Treasurer

Mr Lewis Foster, Youth Commissioner

Mr Troy Wood, Assistant Youth Commissioner

Mrs Cathy Ward, County Commissioner GMN

Mr Chris Varley, F.C.A. Cedar Solutions (Management) Ltd – Account Examiners

Mr David Copeland, County Executive, District Chair Lilford, Silver Wolf Holder

Mrs Iris Emery, County Executive, District Secretary Altrincham

Mr Greg Archer, Deputy County Commissioner – Adult Support

Mrs Daniele Wiseman, Deputy County Commissioner – Development

Mrs Gemma Higson, County Training Manager

Mr Jeff Picton, Assistant County Commissioner International

Mr Andrew Connellan, Assistant County Commissioner - Programme

Mr David Kerrs, Assistant County Commissioner Explorer Scouts

Mr Bob Wilson, Assistant County Commissioner Scouts

Mr Jacob Bond, Deputy County Commissioner Beaver Scouts

Mr David Harvey, Assistant Land Agent Peel Land and Property

Mrs Pamela Copeland, District Secretary Lilford, Silver Wolf Holder

Mr Keith Lang, County Hill Walking Assessor, Silver Wolf Holder

Mr Ken Williams, District Commissioner Altrincham

Mr Richard Gould, Youth Commissioner Altrincham

Miss Sue Leonard, District Commissioner Ellesmere

Mr Steve Ralph MBE JP, District Commissioner Lilford

Mrs Elizabeth Samson, District Commissioner Lowry

Mr Chris Knowles, District Commissioner Urmston

Mr Andrew Atherall, District Commissioner Sale

Mrs Deborah Forrest, District Secretary Ellesmere

Miss Amy Atherall, District Secretary Sale

Mr Phil Rigby, District Chair Ellesmere

Mr Simon Gould, District Chair Altrincham

Mr Ged Davies, District Chair Wigan

Mrs Ann Salt, Silver Wolf Holder

Mr Andrew McDonnell, Dunham Park Treasurer

Miss Rachel Picton, District Secretary Wigan

Mrs Eileen Johnson, Silver Wolf Holder

Mr Paul Wilson, District Chair Lowry

Mrs Sylvia Cornish, Silver Wolf Holder

Mrs Judith Summersgill, Silver Wolf Holder

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2019

Mr David Hughes, Campsite Manager Dunham Park
Mr Stephen Butterworth, Campsite Manager Hollinwood
Mrs Christine Gleaves, Local Training Manager Sale, Silver Wolf Holder
Mr Stewart Thompson, County Executive
Mr Anthony Roberts, Local Training Manager Altrincham
Mrs Freda Clarke, County Scout Council member
Mrs Margaret Davies, County Scout Council member
Mr Paul Mullineux, County Assessor
Mr Paul Brighouse, County Executive, WSJ 2019 Asst. Unit Leader Swarm 44
Mrs Tina Winterbottom, County Scout Council member
Mr John Paul Yates, County Training Advisor
Mr Derek Batchen, Hollinwood Scout Active Support
Mr Michael Harding, District Treasurer Sale, County Scout Council member
Mrs Joan Smith, District Treasurer Wigan
Mrs Tricia Dunning, WSJ 2019 Unit Leader Swarm 44
Miss Rebecca Shaw, WSJ 2019 Asst. Unit Leader Swarm 44
Mrs Sue Ralph (County Administrator – Minutes) and 17 commissioners, leaders and friends signed the attendance register.

Apologies:

Col Sir John Timmins KCVO, OBE, TD KStJ, TD, DL, DSc, LLD, County Vice President
Mr Michael Oglesby CBE, DL, LLD DSc, County Vice President
Mrs Nisbah Hussain, Regional Commissioner
Mr Clive Winby, County Executive member
Mr Matt Osborne, Acting District Commissioner Stretford
Mr Paul Green, District Commissioner Wigan
Mrs Joan Hayton, County Scout Active Support member BHSE
Mr Alan Hayton, Assistant Camp Warden BHSE
Mr John Gilpin, Urmston District
Mrs Sarah Gilpin, Urmston District
Mrs Jacqui Aspinall MBE, Silver Wolf Holder
Mr Hugh Davies, Silver Wolf Holder
Mrs Pat Haynes, Silver Wolf Holder
Mr Bob Haynes, Silver Wolf Holder
Mr Phil Horton DL, Greater Manchester East
Mr Alex Waddington, County Safety Co-ordinator, Silver Wolf Holder
Mr Keith Morris, County Training Advisor
Mr David Marsden, Sale District
Mr Graham Barrick, County Appointments Chair
Mr George Sharp, Silver Wolf Holder
Mrs Vera Crossley JP, County Vice President, Silver Wolf Holder
Dr Geoff Sides Ph.D. FICE, County Vice President, Silver Wolf Holder
Mr Peter Leonard, Ellesmere District
Mr Jim Dawson, Ellesmere District
Mr Matthew Taylor, Ellesmere District
Miss Georgina Dale, Ellesmere District
Mrs Glenda Gould, Altrincham District
Mr Chris Starkie, County Nights Away Advisor

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2019

Mr Michael Dunn, Campsite Manager Hollinwood.

Mr Pete Blundell, Lilford District

Miss Siobhan Mullen, Assistant County Commissioner Cubs

Mrs Helen Salvini, Girlguiding Manchester

01-02/19: Safety Notice and Opening Thought – Phil Rigby, District Chair Ellesmere.

03/19: The County President, Lord Lieutenant Mr Warren Smith welcomed everyone to the meeting including the Ceremonial Mayor of Salford, Mayor of Wigan and Mayor of Trafford expressing sincere gratitude for their support. Everyone present had copy of the Annual Report which was testimony to the remarkable work being done across the County.

The Lord Lieutenant felt that Central Government never seems to appreciate the amount of work being done with the young people by the Scout Movement in creating new citizens and leaders for the future. As Her Majesty's Representative, on her behalf, he thanked each and every-one for the contribution made to the Scout Movement, the young people and the community at large.

04/19: The Ceremonial Mayor of Salford Councillor Charlie McIntyre welcomed everyone to Ellesmere in Salford Metro praising the Scouts for what they achieve and hoped numbers would continue to increase.

05/19: Apologies for Absence read by the County Secretary Ann Lam, as listed.

06/19: Approval to accept the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 26th September 2018 as previously circulated.

The County President proposed acceptance of the minutes.

Seconded by Jeff Picton. All in favour.

07/19: County Commissioner's announcement of the County Chairman.

The County Commissioner announced that Haydn would continue as County Chairman.

The County President added that he was pleased to have Haydn continuing in the role and had no doubt he would continue to be an exceptional chairman.

08/19: Presentation of the Annual Report.

Haydn presented the Annual Report for 2018/19. As well as containing the necessary legal entries such as the financial reports it contained some very good reading, encouraging everyone to read it, pass it on to other members in their groups/ districts and for it to reach as wide an audience as possible. The Report highlights what a wide and diverse movement we are and the fantastic things happening within the County; a great document and a good advertisement for Scouting. Haydn thanked Phil Peacock for his skills in putting the report together.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2019

09/19: Presentation of the Examined Accounts by the County Treasurer, Roger Kettle.

Roger explained that copies of the accounts had been circulated within the Annual Report. Bispham Hall Scout Estate has a separate charity number and anyone wanting copies of their accounts would need to contact the BHSE Management Committee.

Hollinwood Scout Camp held their first AGM earlier in September and the figures shown in the Annual Report were given at this meeting. Hollinwood Accounts are to be split between day to day running costs and projects. Projects will be deducted from the 60 day account.

International Account is shown as restricted funds as it is only a holding/handling account for those going on expeditions. Roger was pleased to advise that the Climb Morocco and Malawi expedition accounts had been balanced which considering the amount of money involved was a great achievement to the two treasurers Andy Bradley and especially Kate Scott (Malawi) in view of the amount of money she was responsible for. The 2019 Jamboree and Philmont expedition accounts are ongoing. Roger pointed out that the International Account is available for any future County expeditions.

Restricted funds also include £60,000 held in Shawbrook Bank 60 day account for Hollinwood.

Opportunity for questions were then given. None raised.

10/19: The County President proposed the approval of the Annual Report and to adopt the Examined Accounts.

11/19: Seconding the move to approve the Annual Report and adopt the Examined Accounts was Chris Knowles. All in favour.

The County President then thanked all those who were involved in the production of the Annual Report reiterating that it is a quality piece of work and should be distributed widely. He also thanked Roger for undertaking the role of Treasurer, a huge and responsible task.

12/19: Announcement of the County Levy by the County Treasurer.

HQ: £28.50 (£29 with 50 pence discount if paid by 23rd April)

County: £9.50 (in line with CC's proposals in 2017 increase of 25p per annum)

Total payable: £38.00 for all members under the age of 18.

District Treasurers were then thanked for ensuring the funds are received on time.

13/19: Election of the County Secretary.

County Commissioner proposed Ann Lam continue as County Secretary and thanked her for taking on the role from the AGM last year and for her work during the last year.

Seconded by Pam Copeland. All in favour.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2019

14/19: Election of the County Treasurer.

The County Commissioner proposed that Roger Kettle continue as County Treasurer and gave massive thanks for all his work; especially this year with the amount of work generated by the Jamboree and Philmont trips, the splitting of the Hollinwood accounts and the reconciliation of the Middlewood Accounts all in addition to the day to day running of the County.

Seconded by David Copeland. All in favour.

15/19: Announcement of elected members to the County Executive Committee as notified to County Secretary Ann Lam

Salford Metro To be advised*

Trafford Metro Mrs Lucy Nattrass* (South) Mrs Tina Winterbottom* (North)

Wigan Metro Mrs Laura Pridding*

[* indicates change from last year]

16/19: Announcement of the County Commissioner's nominations to the County Executive Committee.

Mr David Copeland, Mrs Iris Emery and Mr Matt Dawson

17/19: Announcement of County Scout Council members (each District Scout Council elected one Scouter to the County Scout Council, as notified to the County Secretary.)

Altrincham: Mrs Freda Clarke

Ellesmere: To be advised

Lilford: Mrs Laura Pridding*

Lowry: To be advised*

Sale: Mr Mike Harding

Stretford: To be advised

Urmston: Mrs Tina Winterbottom

Wigan: Mrs Margaret Davies

[*indicates change from last year]

18/19: Appointment to the Committee of the Association.

The County Commissioner proposed his representative for adult and youth member: Lewis Foster.

Seconded by John Paul Yates. All in favour.

19/19: The County Treasurer proposed that Chris Varley from Cedar Solutions continue as the Account Examiners.

Seconded by Mike Harding. All in favour

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2019

20/19: Presentation of Awards.

The County Commissioner took the opportunity to reiterate thanks to Phil Peacock, the Programme team and all those who contributed to the Report extending thanks to the County as a whole. Reflecting over the last five years, with our plan 'to do more and be more' a massive amount had been achieved, not just internationally but in programme, training and changes to the structure of the County. GMW's reputation continued to grow both Nationally and in the North West Region and thanked everyone for that.

Tina Winterbottom, Urmston District, then presented Bob Wilson with his bar to the Award for Merit.

21/19: Andy Connellan gave thanks to Ellesmere District for hosting the AGM and looked forward to seeing everyone in Wigan next year.

22/19: Final Address by the County President

The Lord Lieutenant pointed out that Scouters do amazing work in the community and many are also involved in other voluntary organisations/activities. If you know someone who you think should be recognised for their voluntary work then you can nominate them for a National Honour. Please take time to look into this, full details can be found on website <https://www.gov.uk/honours>

The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service is the highest Award that any voluntary organisation can receive and comes directly from Her Majesty the Queen. If you would like to nominate a voluntary organisation then full details can be found on the website - <https://www.gov.uk/queens-award-for-voluntary-service>

In Greater Manchester there is a great demand for Magistrates. It can be the most rewarding, highly stimulating and challenging work. Max age 70 years and appointments have been made from the age of 21. If anyone is interested in becoming a Magistrate details can be found on the website - <https://www.gov.uk/become-magistrate> or contact the LL's office for further advice.

Everyone then stood for a moment of reflection to commemorate those Scouters who had passed away in the last year.

With the formal business over there were presentations showing the 24th World Scout Jamboree West Virginia and Philmont Expedition New Mexico, USA.

County Accounts 2019-20



GREATER MANCHESTER WEST COUNTY SCOUT COUNCIL

Report & Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2020

PRESIDENT Sir Warren Smith KCVO, KStJ, JP, LLD, DLitt, Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Greater Manchester

VICE PRESIDENTS Dr Geoffrey Sides, PhD, FICE
Mrs Vera Crossley, JP
Colonel Sir John Timmins, KCVO, OBE, KStJ, TD, DL, DSc, LLD
Mr Michael Oglesby, CBE, DL, LLD, DSc (deceased Nov 2019)

TRUSTEES:	<i>Ex-Officio</i>	Mr Andrew Farrell Mr Haydn Worrall Mrs Ann Lam Mr Roger Kettle Mr Lewis Foster	County Commissioner County Chairman County Secretary County Treasurer County Youth Commissioner
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Elected Deborah Forrest (From 28.1.2020) - Salford Metro
Mrs Lucy Natrass - Trafford Metro (South)
Mrs Tina Winterbottom - Trafford Metro (North)
Mrs Laura Pridding - Wigan Metro

Nominated Mrs Iris Emery
Mr David Copeland
Mr Matt Dawson

BANKERS	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill, West Malling Kent, ME19 4JQ	EXAMINERS	Chris Varley, F.C.A. Cedar Solutions (Management) Ltd. Prospect House, 2 Sinderland Road Altrincham, Cheshire. WA14 5ET
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CONTACT	County Secretary Mrs Ann Lam c/o Office address	REGISTRATION	
		Scout Association	00168
		Charity	508002

OFFICE	Unit 5 Kelmercourt House 102 Sale Lane Tyldesley MANCHESTER M29 8PZ	E-MAIL	county.office@gmwscouts.org.uk
		WEB PAGE	www.gmwscouts.org.uk
		TEL/FAX	0161 790 5634

County Accounts 2019-20

GREATER MANCHESTER WEST COUNTY SCOUT COUNCIL

Trustees Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2020

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MAJOR ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE YEAR

A separate report, detailing major Scouting activities and achievements this year, is associated.

The Hollinwood Reserves have been called upon to facilitate the development of the site. Although Hollinwood is starting to be used, it is still very early days in the development of the site.

To help and support the training sections within the County annual membership fees for access to Online Scout Manager (OSM) has been purchased for all.

The International fund is kept in a separate CAF Bank, which is being used to receive individual's payments for International Expeditions, and to make payments related to those expeditions. This fund is shown as restricted as GMW is only acting as an agent.

This account is or has been used by Jamboree 2019 and Philmont 2019, and it is currently holding the money for the Poland European Jamboree, which has been postponed until 2021.

General comment

The Trustees' policy on reserves is to hold funds against specific purposes only. General funds shown on the closing balance are, therefore, all allocated to designated funds, as shown on page 3. Such funds are to enable the administration of the County and management of the campsites to be carried out in accordance with minimum standards and local initiatives, to provide support for adult training & development and the management of Scouting activities, to develop Scouting within the County and to allocate an agreed level of financial grants towards the furtherance of Scouting within the County.

The Trustees' policy on interest received from invested funds is to retain such income to preserve the value of the investments.

The renewal/replacement and acquisition plan for our assets continued, in line with our authorised budget.

The Trustees have identified the major risks to which they believe the County is exposed. They have reviewed these and established systems to mitigate them.

The assessed contingency has been revised to £17,375 in conjunction with our budget setting procedures.

The objects of the County are as detailed within the Association's Policy, Organisation and Rules.

The County is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Scout Counties.

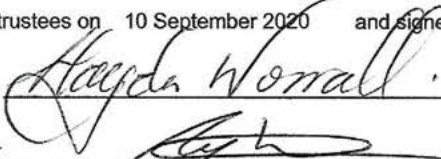
Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation & Rules of The Scout Association.

The accounts have been drawn up on the receipts and payments basis in line with the Scout Association's rules as amended by the Committee of Council in January 2005.

Next year

Unfortunately, the Coronavirus has had a serious effect on all planned activities, and now, nobody can foretell when Scouting with GMW will return to normal.

Approved by the trustees on 10 September 2020 and signed on their behalf by

County Chairman  Haydn Worrall

County Treasurer  Roger Kettle

County Accounts 2019-20

GREATER MANCHESTER WEST COUNTY SCOUT COUNCIL

Receipts & Payments Account Summary for the year ended

31 March 2020

PAGE 3

	2019 - 20				2018 - 19
	General Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds £	Total Funds £
Total receipts for the year (see page 4)	146,026	122,425	-	268,451	297,370
Total payments for the year (see page 5)	180,342	161,884	-	342,226	311,339
Net receipts (payments) for the year .	(34,316)	(39,459)	-	(73,775)	(13,969)
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
Cash, bank and similar funds brought forward	190,040	54,080	-	244,120	258,089
Cash, bank and similar funds carried forward	155,724	14,621	-	170,345	244,120

NOTE

General Funds, shown on the closing balance, are allocated to the following designated funds:-

Name	Purpose	2019 - 20 Total Funds £	2018 - 19 Total Funds £
ADMINISTRATION			
Contingency (& In hand)	Amount to be held against identified and assessed financial risks within the Administration funds (plus amounts C/F in Cty Office (cash), in Network, and International accounts.)	17,375	17,491
Development Grants	Annual budget agreed By Executive to support specific activities/groups/training.	10,000	10,000
Restricted International Fund	To hold and control funds on behalf of participants for specific International events.	14,621	54,080
Hollinwood Reserves:	Trading reserves transferred from Middlewood Camp Site plus an initial capital reserve from General Funds to cover development costs, less capital spend to date	45,461	88,403
Projects Loan	Available to support any development projects within the County. Disbursed by exception by agreement of County Executive Committee, as required	14,474	13,914
Office & Training	Regular day to day maintenance and development spending	41,290	32,446
		143,221	216,334
CAMP SITES			
Hollinwood Trading	Value as shown on the individual trading balance for use to support the operation at Hollinwood Camp Site	7,624	1,000
Dunham Trading	Value as shown on the individual trading balance for use to support the operation at Dunham Park Camp Site	19,500	26,786
		27,124	27,786
		170,345	244,120

The above account and accompanying statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees

on 10-Sep-20 and signed on their behalf by the County Chairman and the County Treasurer.

County Accounts 2019-20

GREATER MANCHESTER WEST COUNTY SCOUT COUNCIL

Receipts for the year ended 31 March 2020

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	2019 - 20					2018 - 19
	General Funds					
	Administration £	Dunham Park Camp Site £	Hollinwood Camp Site £	Total General Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL ALL FUNDS £
MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS						
Gross Receipts	205,065	-	-	205,065	-	205,065
Less Paid to H.Q.	157,835	-	-	157,835	-	157,835
Net Receipts to County	47,230	-	-	47,230	-	47,230
INVESTMENT INCOME RECEIVED						
Bank interest	171	28	-	199	-	199
The Scout Association S.T.I.S.	-	-	-	-	-	-
60 Day account interest	389	-	-	389	-	389
	560	28	-	588	-	588
DONATIONS/GRANTS						
Miscellaneous donations	-	7,000	-	7,000	-	7,000
Claimed Expenses subsequently donated	-	-	-	-	-	-
Awards for All Grant (Dunham Dev't Activities)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grants	-	-	-	-	-	-
Patrons Scheme Development	380	-	-	380	-	380
Sundry Income	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Donations - Hollinwood	11,834	-	7,366	19,200	-	19,200
	12,214	7,000	7,366	26,580	-	26,580
ACTIVITIES						
Services & Sales	-	-	-	-	-	-
Major Events (County Camporee)	-	-	-	-	-	-
International	-	-	-	-	122,425	122,425
Other County Events/Activity	14,770	-	-	14,770	-	14,770
Camping/Activity Fees	-	42,109	-	42,109	-	42,109
Bee Badges	-	-	-	-	-	-
Visitor Fees	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lodge/Building Hire	-	-	-	-	-	-
Advance Fees Paid	-	-	-	-	-	-
Equipment Hire/Permits	-	-	-	-	-	-
	14,770	42,109	-	56,879	122,425	179,304
TRAINING COURSE FEES	985	-	-	985	-	985
FUND RAISING	-	-	-	-	-	-
OTHER INCOME	-	-	-	-	-	-
SUNDRY RECEIPTS						
Providence Sales	-	11,829	-	11,829	-	11,829
Misc other receipts	1,876	59	-	1,935	-	1,935
	1,876	11,888	-	13,764	-	13,764
TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR	77,635	61,025	7,366	146,026	122,425	268,451

297,370

County Accounts 2019-20

GREATER MANCHESTER WEST COUNTY SCOUT COUNCIL

Payments for the year ended 31 March 2020

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	2019 - 20					2018 - 19	
	General Funds						
	Administration £	Dunham Park Camp Site £	Hollinwood Camp Site £	Total General Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL ALL FUNDS £	TOTAL ALL FUNDS £
RUNNING COSTS							
Rent / Rates	3,494	1,170	-	4,664	-	4,664	4,611
Water Charges	-	4,067	-	4,067	-	4,067	-
Electricity	-	2,318	-	2,318	-	2,318	1,891
Other fuel costs	-	3,267	-	3,267	-	3,267	3,434
Insurances	1,502	2,385	-	3,887	-	3,887	4,336
Telephone	256	351	-	607	-	607	813
Stamps/Stationery/MinorPurchases	101	-	-	101	-	101	33
Photocopier	257	-	-	257	-	257	125
I.T. Services	586	850	-	1,436	-	1,436	1,498
Security costs	-	1,425	-	1,425	-	1,425	1,352
Cleaning	-	3,492	-	3,492	-	3,492	3,504
Waste Disposal	-	3,007	-	3,007	-	3,007	4,379
T.V. Licence	-	156	-	156	-	156	153
Other miscellaneous	1,804	663	742	3,209	-	3,209	3,446
	8,000	23,151	742	31,893	-	31,893	29,576
STAFF & VOLUNTEER COSTS							
Staff costs	7,764	-	-	7,764	-	7,764	7,043
Expenses	878	-	-	878	-	878	2,047
Expenses - subsequently donated	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Refreshments & Hospitality	-	775	-	775	-	775	1,041
	8,642	775	-	9,417	-	9,417	10,131
FEES & OTHER REGULAR COSTS							
AGM/Meetings	529	-	-	529	-	529	456
Fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	529	-	-	529	-	529	456
ASSET MANAGEMENT							
Renewals, Replacements & Repair	-	34,170	-	34,170	-	34,170	23,266
New	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,322
	-	34,170	-	34,170	-	34,170	25,588
DONATIONS&GRANTS/DEVELOPMENT							
Donations & Grants paid out	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Development initiatives	10,536	-	-	10,536	-	10,536	5,250
Dunham Development Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hollinwood Development	54,176	-	-	54,176	-	54,176	12,184
	64,712	-	-	64,712	-	64,712	17,434
STOCK PURCHASES							
Badges/DofE books etc	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Providence	-	7,667	-	7,667	-	7,667	9,531
	-	7,667	-	7,667	-	7,667	9,531
ACTIVITIES							
International	-	-	-	-	161,884	161,884	195,320
Other Events/Activity	19,631	20	-	19,651	-	19,651	18,271
Bee Badges	-	-	-	-	-	-	857
	19,631	20	-	19,651	161,884	181,535	214,448
TRAINING COSTS	2,455	-	-	2,455	-	2,455	2,018
SUNDRY PAYMENTS							
Misc	934	-	-	934	-	934	2,157
Branding	1,034	-	-	1,034	-	1,034	-
OSM	7,740	-	-	7,740	-	7,740	-
Digital & Website	140	-	-	140	-	140	-
	9,848	-	-	9,848	-	9,848	2,157
FUND RAISING EXPENSES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	113,817	65,783	742	180,342	161,884	342,226	311,339

County Accounts 2019-20

GREATER MANCHESTER WEST COUNTY SCOUT COUNCIL

Statement of Assets & Liabilities at 31 March 2020

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	2019 - 20			2018 - 19
	Administration £	Dunham Park Camp Site £	Hollinwood Camp Site £	Total Value £
ASSETS				
MONETARY ASSETS Cash, bank and similar funds				
Operating Account(s) (current & instant withdrawal savings a/cs)	1,000	20,227	17,624	38,851
Bank Premium/Deposit Account(s) (CAF Gold)	114,877	-	-	114,877
Shawbrook - 60 day account	-	-	-	60,540
International Account	14,620	-	-	54,080
Cash in hand	195	1,801	-	2,364
	130,693	22,028	17,624	244,120
OTHER MONETARY ASSETS				
Tax Claim for Years Ending 31 March 2020	-	-	-	-
Accounts receivable	-	131	-	1,151
Grant Allocation not yet received	-	-	-	-
Debts Due to County	10,000	-	-	10,000
	10,000	131	-	1,151
INVESTMENT ASSETS				
Other investments	-	-	-	-
NON-MONETARY ASSETS (for own use)				
Stocks	-	1,800	-	2,107
Equipment, furniture, etc	-	-	-	-
Land and buildings	-	-	-	-
	-	1,800	-	2,107
TOTAL ASSETS	140,693	23,959	17,624	182,276
LIABILITIES				
DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR				
Accounts not yet paid	594	954	-	1,548
Expenses incurred not yet invoiced	-	-	-	-
Membership fees paid early	-	-	-	-
Deposits received in advance	-	3,505	10,000	3,505
	594	4,459	10,000	15,053
PAYABLE AFTER ONE YEAR				
Other long term liabilities	-	-	-	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES	594	4,459	10,000	15,053
BALANCE OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES	140,099	19,500	7,624	167,223
CONTINGENCIES & FUTURE OBLIGATIONS				
Capital spend committed re Hollinwood	17,058	-	-	17,058
Admin contingency (assessed annually) & cash in hand	17,375	-	-	17,491
	34,433	-	-	77,491

County Accounts 2019-20

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of GREATER MANCHESTER WEST COUNTY SCOUT COUNCIL

PAGE 7

I report on the accounts of the County for the year ended 31 March 2020 which are set out on pages 3 to 6.

This report is made solely to the trustees in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees for my examination work.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The County's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under Section 145 of the Charities Act);
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the County and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any 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 Examiner's statement

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

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - * to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act ;and
 - * to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Name: Chris Varley
Qualification: F.C.A.
Address: Cedar Solutions (Management) Ltd.
Prospect House, 2 Sinderland Road
Altrincham,
Cheshire. WA14 5ET

Date: 10 September 2020



Awards



Queen's Scout Award

Stephanie Austin (Urmston)
Eleanor Clayton (Ellesmere)
Andrew Gerrard (Wigan)
Hannah Ralph (Lilford)

Penny Rothwell-Mason (Lilford)
James Turner (Lilford)
Jonathan Turner (Lilford)
Thomas Smith (Wigan)



Gilt Cross

Nathan Rowley



Silver Wolf

David Copeland



Bar to the Silver Acord

Freda Clarke



Silver Acorn

Greg Archer
Sue Atkinson
Harry Fairchild
Gerry Farrell
Margaret Farrell

Mark Gore
Bob Hambelton
Justin McDonnell
Sue Ralph
Jane Riley



Bar to the Award for Merit

County.
Bob Wilson

Altrincham
David Botterill
Alan Marriott

Awards



Award for Merit

County

Michael Rollinson

Altrincham

Chris Williams

Lilford

Andrew Foster
Gemma Higson
Shane Hopkins
Steven Lowe

Siobhan Mullen
Jayne Sweeney
Carl Thorp
John Paul Yates

Lowry

Lisa Bold
Billy Edwards
David Heald
Rusine Heald

Pauline Mack
Sarah Moore
Elizabeth Samson

Sale

Paul Maggs
Ian Moore
Chris Varley

Urmston

Sarah Gilpin
Steve Greatrex
Bev Kerrs
Tim Shaw

Wigan

Linda Gilsmith
Paul Gray
Philip Jones

County Commissioner's Report

Another busy 12 months of ticking off milestones against the county plan and filling vacancies, plus a slow but steady increase in adult volunteers means the Greater Manchester West has enjoyed another successful year.

Our main focus has been on Communication based on the feedback of our members. We have created an entirely new media function, each member with their own particular skill set. The senior leadership team and I are looking forward to the new and exciting ways we communicate throughout the county.

Our programme and training remain strong and there has been a huge push on completing mandatory training to ensure that the county as a whole are compliant. Thank you to you all for completing these modules.

Sadly Windsor and all other St George's Day services were postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We hope that once we are at Green readiness status, we will be able to do something to recognise our Queens Scout and award holders.

Although technically the pandemic should be detailed in next years report, I could not possibly ignore the massive amount of hard work and support that our leaders have put in to Programmes Online. Our members, some of whom are less au fait with technology than other have all stepped up to continue to provide Scouting in Greater Manchester West.

The county team and I will continue to support you all through these difficult times, that I can guarantee.

Andy Farrell
County Commissioner



Youth Commissioner

The Youth Commissioner team is pleased to see that young people across the County are being given opportunities to have their voices heard on subjects that are both important to themselves and those that can help shape their Scouting journey.

Young people over the age of eighteen are now eligible to sit on the Executive Committee, meaning that they can make a valid and valued contribution to the management of the County as a trustee. Hopefully, this will create quality and experienced trustees for the future.

Having seen first-hand a GMW reunion of Philmont, Unit 44, Leaders and IST members at the World Scout Jamboree in the USA in summer 2019, it's clear that amazing opportunities both internationally and locally are available across the County for young people and adult members.

Also, the recent additions to both the Programme and Media teams has brought an inspiring mixture of experience and youth which not only makes us more youth shaped than ever, but more relatable to young people in Scouting.

As everyone is well aware the climate with regard to physical meetings has changed but I have no doubt that thanks to all the amazing leaders across the County, young people are being served better than ever: Whether this be executive committees keeping groups and districts operating and safe, leaders spending evenings planning interesting, fun and thoughtful zoom meetings for sections, or people planning and preparing safe face-to-face Scouting for the near future.

Thank you from the Youth Commissioner team and please get in touch if you have any ideas or questions.

Lewis Foster
Youth Commissioner



Programme

During my first year as DCC Programme, there have been lots of opportunities for young people to take part in extraordinary activities and further events to support leaders with the delivery of Top Awards to young people in Greater Manchester West.

Our first major programme event of the year was the weekend of 7th June, the Beavers Damboree Camp that saw nearly 300 young people from across the County attend Bispham Hall Scout Estate for a weekend of activities and adventure whilst working towards completing all the requirements of the Outdoors and Adventure challenge badge. Thank-you to everyone within the County and at BHSE for their hard work in ensuring the event was a success. During the weekend we also hosted the Regional Lord Derby at the same venue, despite the wet and windy weather it was a great success and congratulations to the team representing West Lancs County that took away the trophy on the day.

In June, we also had our second annual Survival Camp run by our ACYC, James Turner. There were lots of activities for young people in Scouts and Explorers to take part in, all working towards the Survival Skills Activity Badge. The event was attended by young people from across the County and was a great success. I want to pay tribute to James' dedication in making the event a success for a second year.

The Scout section had a very busy calendar of events throughout the year including the Lord Derby, Camping and Backwoods competitions, BST Adventure, Football competition and Shooting competition – all of which I was lucky enough to attend. I want to thank Bob Wilson and his team of ADC's for their extraordinary efforts in running such an amazing calendar of events. However, my favourite event continues to be our annual Cardboard Canoe Race for Scouts and Explorers that took place at the Helly Hensen Watersports Centre at Salford Quays. On 22nd June the centre was packed with young people, volunteers and their families to watch cardboard canoes set sail for their journey around the obstacle whilst being timed. We continue to take this opportunity to promote Scouting in Greater Manchester West, with many members of the public stopping to watch the race and get involved in supporting the teams. Congratulations to all of the young people for your excellent design, teamwork and in some cases, graceful SINKING skills.

The end of June saw our annual Celebration of Excellence take place in the beaming sunshine at Bispham Hall Scout Estate. We came together to recognise hundreds of young people's achievements of Top Awards from the Chief Scout Bronze Award, all the way up to the Queen's Scout Award. Young people accompanied by their parents had the opportunity to take part in lots of activities including a zip line, bush craft, axe throwing, backwoods cooking, and a number of exciting activities delivered by our international contingents, SWARM44 and the Philmont Expedition team. Our County President, the Lord Lieutenant of Greater Manchester attended alongside other dignitaries and I was particularly honoured to present participation certificates alongside our Regional Commissioner to our young people to celebrate their achievements.

Our Explorer programme includes the Camping and Backwoods competition, Cardboard Canoe Race and BST Adventure and Shooting competitions. I want to take this opportunity to thank Neil Tuckers (BST) and Ian Jones (shooting) for their hard work and dedication in organising these two events for Scouts and Explorers on behalf of the County. Our ACC Explorers, Dave Kerrs, has a number of new opportunities for Explorers to take place in 2021.

Programme

Our standout highlights were the international opportunities which took young people and volunteers across the Atlantic to America for a number of different experiences.

The first was the adventures of SWARM 44, the unit that attended the World Scout Jamboree in West Virginia. They also visited New York, attended a baseball game with thousands of young people and unit leaders from the UK and was hosted by a group of Canadian Scouts. This once in a lifetime opportunity to visit the WSJ as a young person has left them with amazing memories and unforgettable experiences shared with thousands of young people and volunteers from across the world.

The Philmont Expedition was the second of our trips and saw young people complete 10 days of expedition at Philmont Scout Ranch, alongside visits to Washington DC, Los Angeles and even a day at the World Scout Jamboree. This experience will have taken some of our young people and volunteers to their physical limit, however the breath taking scenery and the nice comfy bed waiting for them in Los Angeles would definitely have been an incentive to be resilient, keep going and enjoy the amazing opportunity they had worked so hard to achieve.

The other international opportunities last year included a group of leaders visiting a number of places in North America whilst having the opportunity to meet up with SWARM44 and the Philmont participants at the World Scout Jamboree. We also had a group from 1st Golborne going to Kandersteg International Scout Centre over the summer too. All of these amazing experiences would not have been possible without the commitment of all of our young people and their leaders with their fundraising efforts and preparation for their respective trips. I want to take this opportunity to say thank-you to all of them, their districts/groups, their families and friends for their commitment to making such events possible. A special thanks to our ACC International, Jeff Picton, for his dedication in supporting these international experiences and lending his expert advice to ensure they were all a huge success.

In October, we saw the amazing Chariot Race take place organised by the team at Bispham Hall Scout Estate, which was followed the weekend after by our Cub Mudder event. A record 55 teams took part in the race, but a special congratulations to Sale Central for coming first. This is another event that requires lots of hard work from volunteers in Greater Manchester West and at BHSE, your hard work is greatly appreciated.

In January 2020, myself and Youth Commissioner, Lewis Foster met with Network Commissioners, leaders and members from across the County. The meeting was well attended with representatives from most districts. We agreed on effective communication channels for the Network section in Greater Manchester West, how the County can support District Networks and scheduled a number of events including a Networking Camp and attendance at the Network Festival. Unfortunately, due to the suspension of face-to-face Scouting, these events were postponed however we are looking forward to having more events for Network members in 2021.

At the start of March, a few weeks before the suspension of face-to-face Scouting, we held, at 5th Urmston, our first all section Programme Support Day for leaders, commissioner and supporters. This event follows two successful pilots the previous year with the Beaver and Scout sections. Volunteers were able to attend a variety of sessions, including to support on different aspects of

Programme

the programme, practical skills relevant to their section, support on Top Awards and Young Leaders and many more. The day was attended by over 50 volunteers from across the County and the feedback was extremely positive. We plan to run a similar event in early 2021.

Since becoming DCC Programme in March 2019, I have also been responsible for communications and media. During the year, I worked closely with our Internal Communications Manager, Michele Millington to improve communication with our members, including rebranding The Buzz, ensuring key information is shared by email before social media and ensuring our website has the most updated and relevant information. In March 2020, we advertised a number of roles to focus on external communication and media, I am really looking forward to working with our new Communications Team to improve communication channels and promote the amazing Scouting that takes place in Greater Manchester West.

I would like to thank all of the Programme Team for their dedication to providing extraordinary experiences for our young people and continuing to support our volunteers.

Jacob Bond
Deputy County Commissioner for Programme



Development

Over the past twelve months I have been managing the County Strategy to ensure that we are on track to deliver all elements of the plan we committed to at the start of the year.

I have created a fundraising appeal pack and have started to look at further external funding options in addition to the ones we already have in place. This is so that we can deliver some of the more strategic aspects of our plan, for example Hollinwood Scout Camp.

More recently my main focus has been working with the rest of the Senior Leadership Team to create essential information for all members during “lockdown”

Unsurprisingly there have been many ‘lockdown heroes’ at a local level who have bridged the gap for their young people taking meetings and activities online. I have recently trawled district websites for material to share with our newly appointed Communications Team to make a video which showcases many of these online sessions and I have enjoyed seeing neckers and toilet rolls flipped and kicked between young people in their bedrooms and back gardens and the contribution of parents to back garden camps and badgework. Now we just need to flip some of these parents into leaders and offer them flexible ways to stay involved.

There are many concerns for groups in every district with respect to the impact lockdown will have on their sections. The responses came in just before the end date for 2019’s report and so there are some key priorities for the County to consider. Amongst the barriers to a return to normal are losing and recruiting volunteers and losing young people. The priorities identified in the survey going forward included ‘volunteer recruitment’ considered a priority by 30% of respondents.

The global pandemic has accelerated the digitalisation in many areas of society. The value of an immediate response through a poll or survey is the key to the agility with which the organisation can respond. Planning for this coming year, Growth and Development are key areas for the County to support and through three new Metro Growth Liaison roles, I am hoping we can get a more effective feedback loop in place to enable a more useful response.

The investment of time and money into the campsites, activities and training for leaders that those responding to the survey identified as key, depends somewhat on the value of the sponsorship or support in kind from our Patrons and other local businesses. Fundraising last year was less than the previous year but our links with the business community continue to bear fruit. Districts applying for local grants have had some success and we must share their learning across the County. The new Development Grants Board announced last year, is being mobilised to support initiatives for Programme, International and Exceptional expenditure and simplifies the process for those applying for funds.



Adult Support

In my first full year of looking after Adult Support it's been another busy one, with lots of changes and planning for the future.

My key areas for this year was overseeing the County's provision on Module Training, Safeguarding, First Aid, and Nights Away Permits.

Module Training: This year has seen the busiest year we have ever had for our members attending courses on both 'Getting Going and Getting Away'. We have had members from all over the County, some new, some who have attended to re-learn which is great to see. We have listened to feedback and adapted to your needs to improve on the current training offer.

My special thanks to Gemma (Higson) who as County Training Manager has managed these weekends amongst the many other tasks put on her; Her passion for making the County's training provision I believe one of the best in Scouting is second to none.

Also thank you to Keith (Morris) who heads up the Nights Away training for us and has become the County's Night Away Adviser.

As Gemma's report mentions we have improved the Training and renamed and revamped what should have been launched this year, but good things come to those who wait and hopefully we can launch these in 2021.

Safeguarding: In November we had 3 more attend the Train the Trainer course which now leaves us 19 strong (largest in the Region) in being able to deliver Safeguarding throughout the districts and the focus on the coming year will be to set more dates locally with the team.

First Aid: Districts have adapted very well over the year and alongside the County provision we are delivering regularly courses locally which is great news.

I am very proud of all the Team in what has been delivered this year regards Adult Support and alongside this I have been working with the County Commissioner and the Senior Leadership Team to develop the County's vision. My personal thanks to Andy for the support given to me throughout the year.

I said it last year, but I do believe we are leading the way in how to run Training within our County, we are not afraid to adjust if it doesn't work and that is only possible with a great team.

We are looking at more specialist training courses; we held Mental Health, First Aid, Executive Training, Inclusivity, Nights Away Assessors Courses, Module 25T to name a few.

I am excited for the future. I know as I end this report we are in 'Lockdown' awaiting for a restart date. We have planned so much more for our members - we need to look at making sure members have the right support for the roles they have and we will make sure we do. On a final note I would like to thank all the team for their time and effort, the tireless meetings to weekends away (You all know who you are!!!!) to make sure we are delivering the very best we can offer.



Training

Well, what an end to the year! Despite a global pandemic, national lockdown and all face-to-face Scouting being temporarily suspended, we have had a remarkably good year as a training team. Behind the scenes there has been a huge amount of work going on and I would like to issue my personal thanks to every one of those team members involved. Mandatory training reviews, writing new training programmes, compass clearing, supporting decision making in all forms and generally working incredibly hard. This team runs as just that, a team, and I am incredibly proud and humbled by the effort that is willingly given.

Our Local Training Managers have been continuing their hard work to clear up compass, issue as many Wood Badges as possible and assist with all training queries. This year has been the best for communication and the best for delivery throughout each and every district. As well as our already established team we were very lucky to welcome two new LTMs in Bill Outhwaite and Anwar Halab. They both joined us at the beginning of this year, as I'm sure you can imagine from the amount of correspondence you have received, this has been quite an introduction to the training team! Our more established LTMs have welcomed and supported them both extremely well and we are looking forward to continuing to build these relationships in the future. Thanks must also go to Greg, Deputy County Commissioner for being an excellent line manager and keeping us all going.

Most recently the training team has been continuing to clear and update mandatory training records. This is a task that we started at least 18 months ago and alongside our other training duties have been working to improve ever since. Unfortunately, recent and tragic circumstances within Scouting have led to a review from Headquarters and we have made this our current single focus. You will no doubt have seen posts and emails about mandatory training and the necessity to keep this in date at all times and relevant to your role. Our aim is to zero the out of date or incorrect records and ensure that everyone is covered safely. The numbers have already significantly fallen which is fantastic news, they need to continue to do so. Please support your Local Training Managers and Training Advisors in their dedicated roles to complete this task, we do not have a choice but to do this.

I would also like to report on the hard work of our District training teams. Our Training Advisors are working well to support our leaders and there is a better support programme in the planning stages for these members for next year. The District teams for first aid and safeguarding that were set up in 2018/19 have been providing local training for leaders to complete and update their training in these areas. This has had a significant impact on how well we have been keeping leaders trained and has hugely increased the opportunities for accessing this training. They have also been working across different Districts and within County courses to support us even further.

Also, as a County we are extremely lucky to have two Regional Trainers, who deliver the Regional Management Training with Greater Manchester East and Greater Manchester North. This cluster works together to deliver the Management modules for leaders who are in managerial positions. These courses have received excellent feedback from participants and are really driving forward further training for our leaders. We need to make sure that we are encouraging leaders to attend these courses.

We delivered the very last Getting Going and Getting Away residential courses in October of 2019. This was not without a heavy heart. The training courses as we had them were working and in

Training

most cases working well, but without change we are going to stagnate and 2019 was to see yet another turn around in Greater Manchester West training.

The courses last year were very well attended. We continued to train leaders in first aid, safeguarding, wood badge module content and nights away content. The comments received from participants were overwhelmingly positive. I would like to thank all members who attended or supported training by encouraging people to attend our training courses. Without enthusiastic people to train we wouldn't have a very successful team.

Which brings me to extremely positive news (even if it is currently 'on hold') In January of this year I launched our GMW training plan for 2020. This vision was led by you. We listened to your comments about accessibility, about content, about time length and we devised a new suite of courses to meet your needs better. The residential courses will remain at Bispham Hall Scout Estate as this is the best venue that we have to deliver simultaneous courses for the largest numbers of people. These will continue to run three times per year but courses have changed. You can now dip in and out of the parts of courses you require, you can access the SA Getting Started course to ensure that new leaders are covered in this most basic area of training. We will be delivering a 'skills' course tailored to suit your current needs. We will also be delivering shorter, more specialised training sessions to extend knowledge, these will travel around the three metros. I truly believe that our new look training - leaflets available on request if you don't already have them - is currently the best that there is to offer. This programme will resume as soon as safely possible and we look forward to welcoming and training even more leaders.

Looking back on this last year it has been a wonderful experience to work with many leaders from across our County. We have had those who arrived with little knowledge and some apprehension as to what they had signed up for to those who have been 'in the job' for decades but just wanted to come and polish their skills. Wood Badges have been issued in great numbers, training queries are coming in every day, the lines of communication are well and truly open. One of my primary aims in this role is to make sure that everyone has someone that they feel confident to contact about their training, no matter how small they feel the query may be - we are well on the way to achieving this. Thank you to all who have attended our courses, for your support, your enthusiasm and for your knowledge, we all learn something new on every course.

Looking to the start of the 2020/21 year I am excited to establish our new training programme and improve even further the content we deliver. Training has literally never looked as good!

Gemma Higson
County Training Manager



Beaver Scouts is the youngest section in Scouting and is for young people from age 6 to 8 years.

Towards the end of 2018 I was asked when the next County Beaver Camp would be, after a successful Beavers 30th Birthday Camp at Middlewood Scout Camp back in 2016. I said I wasn't sure and it could be a while off yet. However, after lots of persuasion, we decided that in June 2019 we would have our own County Beaver Damboree.

On a cold, wet and windy Saturday in June, nearly 300 young people and 80 leaders from across Greater Manchester West arrived at Bispham Hall Scout Estate for a weekend of fun and adventure. The theme was the United States of America in line with the upcoming Jamboree in West Virginia. We had a variety of activity zones including Times Square, the Grand Canyon and Miami Beach. The aim of the camp was for young people to achieve ALL of the requirements from the Outdoors and Adventure Challenge badges to support leaders in the delivery of the Chief Scout Bronze Award.

There were lots of activities for young people to complete, including making camp doughnuts at the backwoods cooking base, helping to build our giant bug hotel and learning all about crossing the road safely. There was archery, shooting, tomahawk throwing, climbing and a zip line to name a few more.

As the day went on the sun came out and we were all able to come together for a huge barbeque in front of Bispham House. A special thanks to 3rd Ashton-on-Mersey Scout Group for coming along and running the barbeque for us and making sure everyone had plenty of burgers and hotdogs!

In the evening we had a disco under the barn with DJ Colin from Sale Central and there were lots of prizes for our young people to win whilst playing musical statues, pass the parcel and lots of other party games.

Sunday morning, everyone was still tired from all the excitement the day before, but there was time for a campfire led by Dave Finch from 1st Abram. The Beavers stood up dancing and singing along to all the classic campfire songs.

Thank you to everyone who played a part in the organisation and delivery of this event, from the County Team, to the crew at Bispham Hall Scout Estate and a special mention to Franki Wedgebury who played a vital role in making sure all of our food was ready to go at mealtimes.

During the past year I also had the opportunity to visit lots of sections and district activities. I was able to judge the Urmston District Cooking Competition, present Chief Scout Bronze Awards at the Chill Factor and invest a number of Beavers and their leaders too.

This report concludes my time leading the Beaver Scout section in Greater Manchester West. It has been a truly wonderful 4 years and has been the most enjoyable role I have ever had. It would not have been possible to deliver the range of different programme opportunities for both adults and young people without the support of the hard working and dedicated team of ADC's. I would like to personally say a huge thank-you for your support and advice. Tom Dutton from Lilford District will be taking over as ACC Beavers from June 2020 and I am looking forward to supporting him in my role as DCC Programme.



Another good year for the Cub Section. The amazing leaders we have in the County continue to provide excellent programmes and activities for our young people. At District level we have seen pick of the packs, football competitions, bucket ball, swimming galas and even a canoeing competition. Thank you to the ADCs for continuing to provide a variety of events throughout the year.

In the Cub section our overall aim is to ensure that every young person has the opportunity to gain the Chief Scout Silver Award. Well done to all the Cubs who gained the Chief Scout Silver Award, it was nice to see so many who were able to attend the Celebration of Excellence held in June 2019.

In October 2019 we held our fourth Cub Mudder which took part at Bispham Hall Scout Estate. Thanks again to Bispham Hall for allowing us to use their Chariot Race course, we definitely had the mud for it! As always, thank you to all the leaders who help make it a success on the day. It is growing year on year (55 teams) even with packs outside of the County! We knew it was going to be an exciting day of racing when the first team of the day 3rd Timperley completed the course in 9.25. Well done to Sale Central the overall winners, crossing the finish line in 8.40! Every year the teamwork demonstrated by the Cubs in our County is excellent. It's great watching them help each other on obstacles, encouraging each other and ultimately making sure they cross the finish line how they started, together as a team!

I would like to thank everyone involved in the Cub section for their commitment and enthusiasm. Thank you.

Siobhan Mullen

Assistant County Commissioner for Cub Scouts



It's been another incredible year for the Scout Section which has been filled with scouting activities of the highest standard. All the young people have been a real credit to themselves and to their leaders. They have made each event fun and enjoyable. Those of you that know me will have heard me say that this is the most important part of scouting – it should first and foremost be fun!

None of what we do would be possible without the amazing leaders we have supporting the Scout Section and it is to you that I offer my huge thanks for the countless hours you volunteer to help change the lives of those in our charge. I must also thank the superb ADC Scouts, District Representatives and helpers that have put up with me and supported me in this last hectic year.

The events / competitions we undertake have the Scout Balanced Programme at their heart. Every activity can count in some way towards badge work and we strive for inclusivity. I would encourage all troops to try to take part in the County activities which I try to make as least impactive on your own time as possible. As we progress, each event / competition will clearly identify which key areas of badge work and programme it covers in order to assist you with your planning. As part of this I would urge you all utilise OSM (Online Scout Manager) as much as possible. It really will make your life easier.

Below are the various events and competitions that have filled the Scouting year. Some of these were held at the same time as the Explorers but I have not included some of their results, apart from where they can't be easily split, so as not to steal any thunder! Well Done to all those that took part and congratulations to the winners!

The Scouting year began with the Lord Derby on 27th April 2019 at Dunham. The weather was terrible but all who took part were amazing in their positive outlook. 1st Timperley – A Team won the event with 2nd place going to 5th Urmston and 3rd place to 17th Stretford. 1st and 2nd placed teams were eligible to progress to the Regional Lord Derby. This was hosted by GMW on 8th June 2019 at Bispham Hall in appalling weather again! The event was won by 1st Southport but our GMW teams did fantastically.

The popular Cardboard Canoe Competition was held on 22nd June 2019 at Salford Watersports Centre. The weather was kind to us and it was, as usual, filled with laughter. The fastest Scout team was 15th Wigan 2, fastest Explorer team was 3rd Davyhulme, Titanic Award (Best Sinking) was 5th Urmston and Best Design went to 3rd Wigan. Changes for the next event will include a leaders' section!

The weekend of 12th to 14th July 2019 saw the Camping and Backwoods Cooking competitions at 5th Urmston Campsite. The weather was good which really helped make the weekend enjoyable. The Backwoods was won by 1st Timperley and the Camping was won by 2nd Urmston. 88th Salford took second place in the camping with 1st Flixton in 3rd.

21st September 2019 saw the BST Hiking Competition take place around Rivington. It was a scorching hot day and all the teams coped amazingly with the heat. The Scout competition was won by 1st Timperley - A Team with 1st Ashton - A taking 2nd place and 1st Standish 3rd. Neil Tucker and his team run a fantastic event and I offer him and his team all my gratitude and thanks. Changes for the future will include making this a weekend camping event.

We held a Patrol Leaders Training Day on 12th October 2019 at 5th Urmston HQ. This built on the previous events and helped to develop the scout's leadership skills and scouting skills confidence. These days are a firm fixture in the Scout calendar and it is hoped they assist leaders to deliver their programme by enabling them to be assisted by better developed PL's.

The ever popular Football Competition was held on 24th November 2019 at a new venue in Ardwick. This sadly meant it was an outdoor event due to the closure of the normal venue. This didn't dampen anyone's spirits despite the cold weather. 2nd Davyhulme took 1st place with 2nd place going to 5th Urmston and 3rd place going to 88th Salford.

The Shooting Competition was held over the weekend of 10th to 12th January 20 at Altrincham Shooting Club. It is an incredibly well organised event and my huge thanks go to Ian Jones and his team for all their hard work and dedication. The results were:

12 and Under

1st - James Rimmer – 3rd Swinton
2nd - Tristan Brunt – 14th Sale
3rd - Lewis Fleming – 15th Wigan

18 and over

1st - Richard Gould – 4th Hale
2nd - Thomas Diffley – Snowden Timperley ESU
3rd - Charlie Lee – Snowden Timperley ESU

Under 18

1st - Oliver Mo – 17th Sale
2nd - Joseph Lee – Phoenix ESU
3rd - Aimee Needham – Snowden Timperley ESU

Senior Team

1st - Snowden Timperley ESU

Junior Team

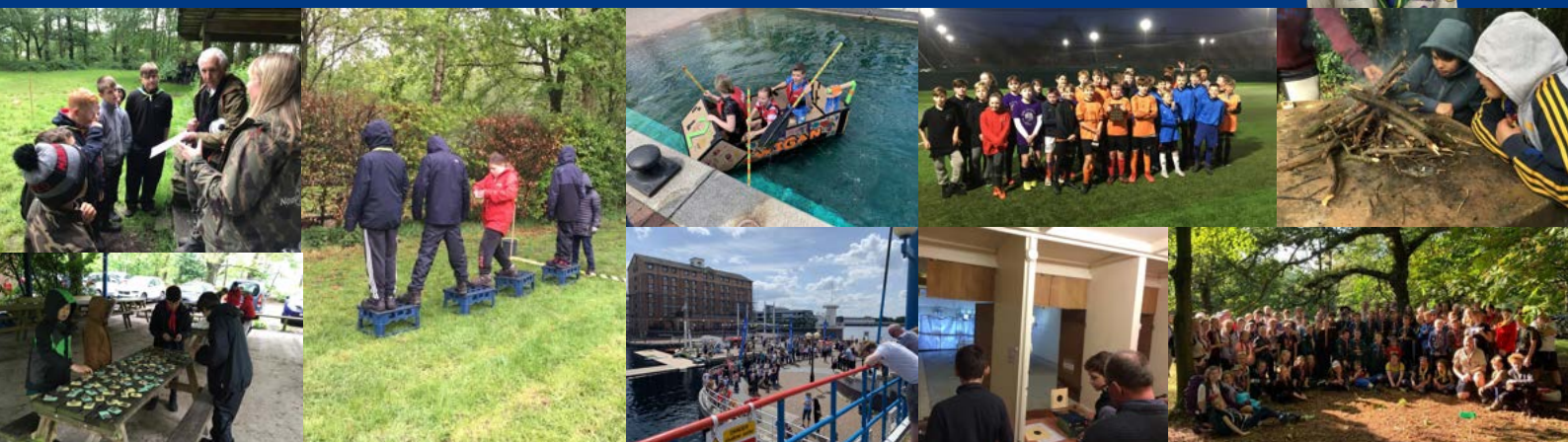
1st - 15th Wigan

The PL Training day scheduled for 23rd March 2020 had to be cancelled due to the COVID-19 situation. This was clearly a very worrying end to the Scouting year but I am sure, given the strength of scouting I have seen this last year, that the spirit of Greater Manchester West will shine through in whatever the coming months has to bring.

May I thank you, once again, for all you have done throughout this Scouting year for the Scout Section. I am proud to be associated with you all.

Bob Wilson

Assistant County Commissioner for Scouts



The last 12 months have been very busy for Explorer Scout units across Greater Manchester West.

Explorers have taken part in the BST Hiking Competition in September which is run in the Rivington and Winter Hill area. The winning teams for Explorers:-

1st - 3rd Hindley

2nd - Snowden ESU

3rd - Wigan Brew Crew

The results for the County Cardboard Canoe Competition:-

Fastest Scouts - 15th Wigan 2

Fastest Explorers - 3rd Davyhulme

Titanic Award - 5th Urmston

Best Design - 3rd Wigan



The County Camping and Backwoods Cooking competition also took place in which congratulations are sent to Explorer winners 1st Flixton - Loki.

We also had a successful Youth Forum which allowed Explorer scouts to voice their ideas for improving uniform, sharing information and access and registration to Top Awards.

Congratulations to all those who took part in the County Shooting Competition 2020. 1st place in the under 18's was taken for the second year by Oliver Mo of 17th Sale with 286. 2nd place went to Joseph Lee of Phoenix ESU with 251, and in 3rd place was Aimee Needham of Snowden Timperley ESU with a score of 237.

Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, all face-to-face scouting has been suspended. This means events such as the Cardboard Canoe Race, the Camping and Backwoods Competitions, Goodwood Activity weekend and the Celebration of Excellence all had to be cancelled.

We have written a guide to assist leaders in advising Explorers on achieving Top Awards during the lock-down period and will continue to stay in contact with District Explorer Scout Commissioners' via video conferencing.

I have been busy visiting units and speaking to leaders in Wigan, Altrincham and Lilford and taking part in some activities. I would like to see more DESC's attending our County DESC's meetings. We are now going to be opening these meetings to all District Explorer Scout leaders to share ideas, improve communication and the cascade of information.

We must not forget the Young Leaders in the County. They are our future. They help out in the younger sections in every district across the County. Lots of sections could not manage without them so a big 'Thank You' to them all.

Some districts including Sale, Stretford and Urmston now have Young Leader Units so that they can also do Explorer activities which all Young Leaders should have access to.



Scout Network allows young people to create, organise and participate in events, activities and projects with other 18 to 25 year olds, in addition to aiming to achieve Top Awards including the Queen's Scout Award, Chief Scout Diamond Award, DofE and Scouts of the World Award.

If you are between the age of 18 and 25, and want to join your local Scout Network please contact your District Scout Network Commissioner or District Commissioner. You can also join the National Scout Network by visiting, www.ukscoutnetwork.org.uk.

It has been a few years since headquarters changed Scout Network from a County section to a District section. In this time, we have seen some strong Networks come to fruition in Greater Manchester West, these include Stretford and ANCOT Networks. Over the past year we have seen a number of Districts 're-boot' their Scout Network and have seen more collaboration between Networks across the County to take part in activities and events.

In January, myself and the County Youth Commissioner met with Network Commissioners and leaders from across the County to share ideas, collaborate and to understand how the County can support Network members in achieving Top Awards.

Since this meeting a number of Networks have taken part in activities together, including a session at Jump Nation in Trafford Park. We have also relaunched the 'Greater Manchester West Scout Network' Facebook group, as feedback was that this method of communication was most effective with Scout Network members across the County.

We did schedule an overnight camp for the end of March, to allow Network members from across the County to meet, 'network' and share ideas. Unfortunately, we had to cancel this event due to the suspension of face-to-face Scouting and this will be rescheduled for a later date.

In addition, we have shared more information about Top Awards and gave Network members the opportunity to come to our Programme Support Day at the start of March to find out more about how to achieve the Top Awards for Scout Network.

We are hoping over the next year there will be further collaborations on events and activities between Scout Networks in Greater Manchester West. In June 2020, Oliver Horne from Stretford District was appointed as the new ACC Network, he will work alongside our QSA Coordinator and DofE Advisor to promote Top Awards and provide more opportunities across the County for Scout Network members to complete aspects of their Top Awards.

Jacob Bond
Deputy County Commissioner for Programme



International

The summer of 2019 was busy with the 24th World Scout Jamboree held at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia, USA. The Jamboree was attended by more than 45,000 scouts, their leaders and supported by International Service Team members from over 167 countries.

GMW had a unit of 36 young people and 4 leaders who started with a sightseeing visit to New York. Followed by 12 days on site interacting with several nations on their own sub camp, activities and of course the special events for all on site. The event was followed by a number of days sightseeing in Washington and attending a baseball game where the UK contingent became the fan club for Anthony Santander of the Baltimore Orioles!! They then headed to Orillia, Ontario Canada for their partner group hospitality. Last year's AGM saw their fantastic presentation giving a great view of what is involved in the journey to and at the Jamboree.

GMW also had another the Philmont Expedition taking place at a similar time. This event started with a sightseeing visit to Washington DC before a day visit to the Jamboree. The team then headed south to Denver and acclimatisation at altitude ready for Philmont Scout Ranch. They then spent 10 days trekking within the scout ranch which covers approx. 140,000 acres. This event was finished off with a visit to LA before the return to the UK. Another great presentation at the AGM in September following their return.

I and six other leaders also flew out to North Carolina to meet up with another scout leader from GMW currently working out there. During the week in NC we also had a day visit to the Jamboree and coordinated it to meet up with the Philmont and Jamboree teams and not forgetting our IST volunteers, over 90 of us all together. We finished off the second week with visits to Washington DC and New York bumping into many scouts and hearing about their great experiences.

The North West Scout Region International teams had a highly successful sixth North West Region Scouts ShelterBox Scavenger Hunt in Liverpool with 90 teams. The sight of over 600 scouts carrying big green boxes around Liverpool raising awareness for this fantastic charity is brilliant. The 2020 event opened for registration in February and had sold out in just 5 days!! Sadly, with the Covid-19 pandemic a decision was taken to cancel this year's event, but a virtual quiz hunt was created with 600 logins many of which were teams. An amazing £1500 was raised, with many teams donating their entry fees.

The summer at group level was quieter but we had 1st Golborne visiting Kandersteg with 34 young people and leaders in total travelling to the World Scout Centre in the Swiss mountains. Their return was delayed by the airline who put them up in a lovely 5* hotel. After a week at Kandersteg the team removed their boots so as not to make a mess, shortly after the staff asked if they could put their boots back on, not sure why!!!

Even in a quieter year (2019) we had over 120 GMW members overseas!!

2020 pre COVID-19 was set to be a busy summer with Sale District (30) and 3rd Altrincham and Panther ESU (75) going to Kandersteg, 1st Stretford (Longford) and Rylands ESU going to Holland (36) and GMW European Jamboree going to Gdansk, Poland (40). However, all have now sadly but understandably been postponed to 2021.



Queen's Scout Award



The Queen's Scout Award is the highest award for any young person in Scouting and requires a considerable amount of hard work, motivation and commitment to complete. The requirements include a period of volunteering, taking part in a physical activity and an expedition of four days carrying full equipment. In addition to these requirements, young people are also required to increase their knowledge and widen their skills set.

This year we have seen an increased number of Queen's Scout Awards achieved by young people in Greater Manchester West as listed previously on the Queen's Scout Award page. I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the County to say a huge congratulations to all of them for their achievement. Furthermore, I would like to recognise and thank all of our volunteers who have provided excellent opportunities and encouragement to all of our Queen's Scouts on their journey throughout Scouting and by making it possible for them to achieve this Top Award.

Congratulations to you all!

For more information about the Queen's Scout Award and to register, please visit www.gmwscouts.org.uk/QSA

Jacob Bond
Deputy County Commissioner for Programme



Duke of Edinburgh's Award



The Duke of Edinburgh Award is performing well in Greater Manchester West with most districts offering the provision. I have increased the numbers of groups offering the awards with a view to every Explorer, Young Leader or Network Unit that wish to provide the DofE can do so. This is advantageous as the Duke of Edinburgh Award gives so many elements to the Top Awards in the journey to Queen's Scout Award.

There have been some changes to the National DofE SASU which provides training. I have qualified as a national trainer and will be rolling out training as soon as Covid restrictions are reduced. If you are wishing to begin the DofE Journey please get in touch at DofE@gmwscouts.org.uk

There have been a few discrepancies around training requirements and the DofE system and Scouting doesn't fit perfectly, with DofE allowing things that POR requires extra elements. I would just remind leaders of those requirements particularly around permits and remote supervision.

Young people are undertaking a vast array of new experiences with physical, skill and volunteering opportunities from cakes to kayaks there have been some interesting challenges. As we moved towards the end of the period we have seen a host of developments around DofE with a difference as the system adopts to the Covid landscape. In effect the young people can do everything but the expedition. The DofE have also confirmed there will be extensions removing worries around time pressure. It may however mean flexibility is required particularly at Gold where participants may be off to University.

In the reporting period of April 2019 - March 2020, fifty-five young people have achieved their Duke of Edinburgh Award. Those awards are:

Bronze: 27 Silver: 20 Gold: 8

The completed D of E Awards have increased by 25% and those that give their time up to support those undertaking the awards are to be congratulated on supplying the opportunities. Without you the award would not be accessible to the young people of Greater Manchester West. Thank you.

Of particular note in this period I congratulate the participants and leaders of Sale McAlpine (20) and Mafeking 217 Young Leader Unit (13) providing 60% of GMW's completed awards with a further 18% coming from Lilford District (both Lilford ASU and Pegasus ESU).

It is fantastic to see Gold D of E Awards being awarded to members of Altrincham District, Urmston - 2nd Davyhulme and Lilford District ASU. I understand the difficulties of getting the awards to completion alongside the other demands upon you. Well done.

There are new units coming on line with new provision in Stretford and Lowry and a restructure at Wigan which will provide new opportunity in a large area of GMW.

This is great news as the Duke of Edinburgh is a solid foundation not just for the young people regarding employability and life skills but also as a springboard for the Top Awards and the path to Queen's Scout Award.



Bispham Hall Scout Estate



Time seems to be going very fast between these reports as it does not seem like 12 months since we last sat down to try and cram a year's activity and adventure into two pages!

Last year started off with a bit of a low, as we mentioned in our previous annual report in early April 2019 the site was subject to a break-in which caused damage to several of our buildings; as ever though team Bispham triumphed over adversity and were able to move on quickly.

The site has continued to be popular for camping, indoor accommodation and we have seen continued growth in the use of our Lavuu's which is testament to the work that has gone into maintaining and improving our facilities over the last few years.

In addition to the 'usual' camping and indoor accommodation for groups we have again been host to a number of larger events such as the GMW Celebration of Excellence as well as competitions and events from various counties and districts, a highlight of these events being South Ribble District camp with around 900 campers taking part in June.

We have continued to host much of the residential training delivered by the Greater Manchester West County Training team and are proud to have a good relationship with the team and hope this will continue in the future. We have some plans to make further improvements in Bispham House to make the delivery of training easier in more adaptable spaces.

This year we have also linked with Cheshire Search & Rescue team who have also used Bispham House to deliver invaluable training to their volunteers; furthermore we were host to St John Ambulance mass casualty / major incident in November. This was a great opportunity for the emergency services to get some training in to prepare themselves for dealing with and managing major incidents. The feedback from St John Ambulance was really positive and we hope to support them again in the future.

We have continued with our plans to make further improvements in Bispham House with this year's main project being the replacement of the flat roofs, removal of aging skylights and partial replacement of some of the tiles on the pitched roofs. Plans for the future include making improvements to accessibility within the building and pressing ahead with the second phase of improvements to toilet & shower facilities to make them accessible to everyone.

We have always thought that our campsite was picturesque, however this year we hit the big time when Millets asked to use our site as a backdrop for their new catalogue, why not get a catalogue or look on the website to see if you can spot our lovely campsite, or better than that come and see us and we will give you our autograph!

This year we pressed ahead with the plans to make improvements to activities. Initially work was done to improve drainage on the Smethurst field then our archery range was relocated. The work, funded in part by a grant from Tesco, will see a purpose built accessible 'have a go' archery range. Once completed we hope to make improvements to axe throwing and shooting ranges either towards the end of this year or early next year.

Once again our favourite event of the year took place, the Chariot Race, attended by over 60 groups

Bispham Hall Scout Estate



from all over the North West and a good weekend was had by all. The Chariot Race is now closely followed by Cub Mudder delivered by GMW. The Cub Mudder sees teams of cubs from across the County participate in a cross-country obstacle course.

We cannot stress enough the hard work, determination and drive that our volunteers have to make Bispham Hall Scout Estate operate almost 365 days a year. It's impossible to put into words how much we appreciate the help and support from our amazing team. As usual in an attempt to say 'Thank You' we held our annual staff meal in January, needless to say a great night was had by all and was a well earned relax!

Finally, we held a full team away day in March to look at our priorities for the coming year. This this event was really successful and we have come up with some great plans for the rest of 2020; unfortunately much of this was put on hold due to the situation with Covid-19 so we are anticipating some of our plans being delayed.

Chris Hayes and Martin Shaw
Campsite Managers



Dunham Park Scout Camp



We had a most successful year in which we increased camper and visitor numbers. We had our first visitors from Ireland for a week in August 2019 making the most of our site and our great transport links.

The successful year allowed us to undertake and complete a large list of jobs. As you are aware we have spent time updating the Harrop Lodge over the last few years, so we continued this by replacing the windows and some of the external doors; taking the opportunity to relocate the new central boiler and remove some pipe work to help when we start to update the kitchen. We also updated the Harrop Lodge toilet, removing the shower and creating an updated accessible toilet.

We were able to part fund this with a grant of £2000 from Tesco Bags of Help. Outside the building we have laid a new path and updated the rainwater drainage.

We also had to replace 100 meters of piping for the field taps on the left hand side of the site during some wet months, and took the opportunity to add a tap to the Mark Barn and lay a new pipe to the Harrop Lodge.

We have installed a new climbing frame at the side of the Parker pool and installed a Beaver trail around the main field area, very kindly hand made by Brian Gleaves, which looks great. We replaced the roofs on the archery and shooting ranges during the year.

The weather has been a challenge, the months leading up to June 2020 were very dry and then from July a very wet second half of the year. The river Bolin, which runs along the back of the site, bursting its banks at least twelve times sometimes for weeks on end. We will make a new range up near to the main site so we can use it for the three activities, shooting, archery and tomahawk. We have regular contact with Craig Buckley, the National Trust Dunham ranger, who has been great and helping with our leaking field tap and supporting the site with donations of bark chippings for the new climbing frame.

I have been indebted to the Management Committee who have helped deliver a great campsite during the winter months for the coming year. We have also reviewed a number of issues during the year, including visitor fees, non-scouting group bookings and health and safety policies.

Finally, I would like to thank the duty warden team who have been amazing during the year.

David Hughes
Campsite Manager



Hollinwood Scout Camp



Much work and activity has been going on at the site, despite it not yet being a 'fully fledged' campsite. Since our appointments as Camp Managers on 1st April 2019 we have worked at keeping the momentum going in order for it to open as a working campsite.

Highlights include our first official camp at Hollinwood on the 10th May 2019 with crew members enjoying some fine weather. Later that same month one of our fundraising volunteers, Sam Bolton raised £500 from Worsley Rotary's Dragons Den event. Many thanks are extended to our friends at Worsley Rotary for putting on a great evening.

In early June we had planned one of our famous Balsam Bashes. However the weather forecast for the day was horrendous and we had to cancel; many of the groups that were due to attend did so over various subsequent weekends and this has had a massive effect on the return of the invasive plant. There are still pockets but nowhere near on the scale we had in previous years.

On the 22nd June Boothstown Scouts and Guides were registered as the first 'fee paying' campers at Hollinwood, spending a great night's camp on the activity field. This was Mike's group and it's rumoured that he has the paper receipt framed and taking pride of place on his mantelpiece.

The Sage Foundation CSR team volunteered for a day at the site on the 12th July providing many hands to assist with ground works and site preparation.

On 3rd September we held our first official AGM at Boothstown Royal British Legion which was well attended.

In October we obtained the Office 365 licences to enable us to set up our online communications and emails for bookings etc.

Over the year there have been 3 planning approvals associated with Hollinwood;

- Change of use approval; This was submitted by Peel and was passed, however there were 8 conditions which needed further approval, some of these have been completed, others are dependent on the ongoing works required.
- The Outline Permission; This was approved on 4th Nov 2019.
- The Full Planning Approval; This was approved on the 2nd March 2020 and contains approval for further containers to be erected. We now have 3 years (From 4th Nov 2019) in which to commence building work. As an aside we have approached Salford Planning via our local councillor to see if there will be any time extensions available due to COVID-19 downtime.

In November we continued the Bonfire Night tradition previously held at Middlewood Scout Camp. This year we used an online registration site. We were oversubscribed with applications and in the end over 100 people attended the event. The feedback received was very positive. Thanks go to the team that helped build the fire, run the food stall and ensure everyone's safety. The end result was a large pile of ash but also a profit over the event expenses.

Also, in November the Sage Foundation returned, this time constructing Hibernacula and clearing more of the woodland areas.

Hollinwood Scout Camp



In February we purchased an assortment of tree surgery equipment from our friend John Hicks who was retiring. £400 was well spent on items including a strimmer, a long reach pruner/cutter, hedge trimmer and a turfer block along with many ancillary items like spare chains, clamps, strops, oils and full canisters.

This March Firswood Scouts camped (and agreed to create a site in the woodland) spending a number of hours clearing fallen trees from the area so that bracken clearance can start to take place.

We also advertised a new quarterly camp newsletter, which we hoped to distribute to friends and users of the site, but this has been hit with technical difficulties. For those awaiting Edition 1 send an email to info@hollinwoodcamp.org.uk for a copy.

Throughout the year site work has carried on;

- Large areas of the site have been cleared of brambles and detritus.
- Lock boxes fitted to container.
- New pathways constructed through the bracken patch area.
- Fencing work continued around the central culvert.
- Planting of 50 Norway Spruce along the Western perimeter edge, to fulfil planning obligations and to act as a wind break.
- Grass cutting has continued throughout to ensure we do not lose ground gained.
- The site looks great and it's a shame we cannot share it with others at the moment.
- Temporary fencing has been erected close to the assumed site boundary with the Bridgewater canal to deter trespassers. We are still awaiting Peel to define this boundary line. Further panels are required to complete this run.

Discussions with Peel have during the year been intermittent and sporadic, nevertheless on 15th Jan a lot of progress was made at a meeting with Peel at their office in the Trafford Centre

- Peel agreed to start work on car park in February/March.
- As part of the car park work the surveyors would re-mark the boundary close to the Canal again.
- And agreed to the works to provide electricity and water to the site in Mid/Late summer 2020 (Thanks to Connor for his invaluable help in preparing realistic electrical power usage plans).

Unfortunately, COVID-19 happened

- Nothing agreed with Peel materialised
- Bookings which looked like they might have been good have diminished greatly.
- There is a provisional one for September.
- Full Site work and volunteering has been put on hold along with other campsites in GMW; limited site visits have continued by some of the very local team to ensure a presence is maintained.
- We are investigating a planning extension and intent to discuss a rent rebate from Salford/Peel due to loss of 2020.

Sadly, over the last year we have had four break-in attempts. Each time costs are incurred having to replace locks and re-secure building and equipment. Some are attempts to gain access to the buildings and equipment, sadly some of them have simply been mindless vandalism. Security checks have been increased and police incident reports are being raised on each occasion.

Hollinwood Scout Camp



On the 'Operational Fundraising' front we applied to GMP for £3,500 to fence the Canal boundary line, but COVID has shut down this funding route for the time being. In fact, understandably the requirements and eligibilities have fundamentally changed across the funding and charity sector. We shall have to see how this source of finance will be affected in the medium to long term.

The campsite looks fantastic during Spring and Summer and those of us lucky enough to live near the site have been able to use 30 acres of woodland for our lockdown exercise; it is a strange feeling of guilt of not being able to share the space but also an immense privilege. Hollinwood is always better when it's full of people - it is the reason we have a campsite after all. We have missed weekends catching up with friends and you can't beat a summer's evening at Hollinwood hearing various groups playing in the fields and woods. We know that we'll all need to get out there and let off some steam when we are eventually allowed to re-open!

This year we are pleased to announce that Daniel Morrissey received his 'black-and-white' (necker) meaning he is officially a senior member of our growing crew. Daniel has shown dedication to both Middlewood and Hollinwood for what seems like years despite only being a relatively young man. He is showing a great strength of character and commitment and always sees a job through.

Our award for crew member of the year goes to Matthew Morrissey. Quite a year for the Morrissey's then! Matt has shown himself to be an indispensable member of our crew and is always full of enthusiasm and good ideas and the success of November's bonfire night is down to his hard work.

Hollinwood is always looking for:

- Volunteers (even if you can only spare an evening a month)
- Links into business' fundraising opportunities
- Organisations wanting to complete corporate social responsibility days away
- Groups wanting to do a service crew weekend

Ste Butterworth and Mike Dunn Campsite Managers



Census Information

Census of Membership in Gt. Manchester West For the year ending 31st January 2020

	Male	Female	Self-identify	Prefer not to say	Total
YOUTH MEMBERSHIP					
Beaver Scouts	1,279	256	0	12	1,547
Cub Scouts	1,507	280	0	2	1,789
Scouts	981	344	0	9	1,334
Explorer Scouts	252	154	0	0	406
Network members	115	64	0	0	179
TOTAL YOUTH MEMBERSHIP	4,134	1,098	0	23	5,255
LEADERSHIP ROLES					
Sections leaders	169	121	0	0	290
Assistant Section Leaders	274	203	0	5	482
Section Assistants	54	61	0	0	115
TOTAL LEADERSHIP ROLES	497	385	0	5	887
Young Leaders	94	61	0	0	155
LEADERSHIP TEAM MEMBERS	591	446	0	5	1,042
MANAGEMENT ROLES					
Group Scout Leaders & Assistant GSLs	57	21	0	0	78
District Commissioners & Deputies	11	2	0	0	13
District Youth Commissioners	2	1	0	0	3
County+ Commissioners & Deputies	3	1	0	0	4
County Youth Commissioners	1	0	0	0	1
TOTAL MANAGEMENT ROLES	74	25	0	0	99
	Male	Female	Self-identify	Prefer not to say	Total
GOVERNANCE ROLES					
Group Office Bearers & Exec Members	135	151	0	0	286
District Office Bearers & Exec Members	25	18	0	0	43
County Office Bearers & Exec Members	2	1	0	0	3
TOTAL GOVERNANCE ROLES	162	170	0	0	332
SUPPORT ROLES					
Group Administrators	11	7	0	0	18
Group Skills Instructors	8	0	0	0	8
Other Group Adults	26	26	0	0	52
TOTAL GROUP SUPPORT ROLES	45	33	0	0	78
Deputy District Youth Commissioners	0	0	0	0	0
Assistant District Commissioners	7	6	0	0	13
District Leaders	4	1	0	0	5
District Scouters	0	0	0	0	0
District Administrators	2	5	0	0	7
District Skills Instructors	5	3	0	0	8
Other District Support roles	12	10	0	0	22
TOTAL DISTRICT SUPPORT ROLES	30	25	0	0	55
Deputy County+ Youth Commissioners	4	1	0	0	5
Assistant County+ Commissioners	4	1	0	0	5
County+ Leaders	0	0	0	0	0
County+ Scouters	0	0	0	0	0
County+ Administrators	0	1	0	0	1
County+ Skills Instructors	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	Female	Self-identify	Prefer not to say	Total
Other County+ Support roles	9	5	0	0	14
TOTAL COUNTY+ SUPPORT ROLES	17	8	0	0	25
Active Support	108	90	0	0	198
TOTAL SUPPORT ROLES	200	156	0	0	356
TOTAL ADULTS	933	736	0	5	1,674
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	5,067	1,834	0	28	6,929
Total Membership due to pay the Headquarters Membership Subscription ie Total of Youth Membership excluding Scout Network					5,076
UNITS					
Beaver Scout Colonies					87
Cub Scout Packs					91
Scout Troops					78
Explorer Scout Units					38
Local Scout Networks					8
Active Support Units					26
Young Leader Units					
Groups					83
Districts					8