



**BIGGLESWADE DISTRICT  
SCOUT COUNCIL**

**DISTRICT REPORTS  
AND ACCOUNTS**

**Prepared for the  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
23<sup>rd</sup> October 2019**

## District Commissioners Report 2019 (written in April 2019)

The District has had a very successful year, with a terrific increase in both young people and adults by just under 10% above the National average and the highest increase overall in the County. Well done to everyone who made this happen.

To make this happen we opened a new Group in Wixams with Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. They are growing stronger and stronger by the day with plenty of challenging activities for all sections.

Arlesey have recently opened a new Beaver colony with a Cub Pack planned for September. Well done everyone.

Fairfield Park Group have opened their second Beaver colony with all new Adults supported by the current adult leadership team. There is also plans here to open the Scout Troop again after the Easter break.

A new Beaver colony was opened by the Leadership team at Gamlingay and Gransden which hopefully will encourage more cubs and scouts through the Group.

Shillington were on the brink of closing their Beaver colony but I am very pleased to report that new leadership has come forward by way of parents so this colony will continue.

This growth was not without some disappointments in that we had to close the Upper Caldecote Beaver colony due to lack of leaders, but the good news for this Group is that a new Scout Leader has been found and the Group have high hopes of the Scout Troop making a full comeback over the coming months.

During St. Georges day I was delighted to present Clive and Pauline Lenton with their Silver Acorns and also Alan Potkins his Silver Acorn for their good works over many years in the District. Congratulations to you all.

Adult training this year has gone from strength to strength with 20 woodbadges being gained over the year and attendance at the County Training Academies high than ever. We have also awarded a large number of Nights Away Permits following a very successful County Training Weekend last October. We are hoping to repeat these numbers this year.

Last but by no means least I would like to congratulate both James Thurlby and Chloe Jefford for achieving the coveted Queens Scout Award. Well done to you both a credit to your Group and your family.

All seemed to be going so well with the District and life in general until December of last year when Ken was diagnosed with a debilitating disease which after a lot of soul searching meant that I could no longer carry on with my Scouting career and we would be moving home closer to family for support in the future. It was with great sadness therefore, that I advised the County Commissioner of my intention to retire from Scouting.

A search was undertaken and as I am sure you all know Rob Pullinger was appointed the new District Commissioner from the 28<sup>th</sup> April, so in my previous AGM report I welcomed Rob as our new District Chairman, I now have great pleasure in welcoming him as your new District Commissioner. I feel confident that I have handed over a very successful and fast growing District and I know that it will be in safe hands.

Moving on to the District Management Team of ADC's, District Scouters, District Exec members, the Appointment Committee and the new Awards Committee, you all work tirelessly behind the scenes to make the District what it is today. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for all your help and support over my tenure of the District and I know that you will show the same level of support for the new DC.

The Badge Shop and Scout Shop continue to flourish and we thank all the team for giving up their time on a Tuesday evening to provide uniforms, certificates and badges to the Adults and Young People in the District. This is a very useful form of revenue for us so their support is very much appreciated. Thank you.

We come now to the Boyd Field and the Warden Team who work very hard to keep these lovely acres looking good for campers. This year after much discussion we decided that we could not confidently confirm that the climbing tower was completely safe and that it must be dismantled, which it was. As luck would have it we were then offered another tower which is on a trailer and has auto belay so can be used without an official Activity Permit for Climbing. The warden team are working towards offering training sessions on this new tower but it is ready to book if anyone wants a go.

There are also other renovations being organised for the Boyd Field to improve the toilet facilities etc. ready for the camping season this year and also Biggjam 2020 next year.

Network has taken an upward turn under the guidance of Matt Panton. We now have a good contingent who meet regularly and are undertaking some interesting activities.

Phil Wood continues to provide the Young Leader Training Scheme and also supporting Explorer Units throughout the District.

Finally our Jamboree contingent will be going to the WSJ 2019 in the Summer and we hope to have a report back from them for the next AGM but in the meantime I would like to thank the Executive on their behalf for the financial support they have provided and also for the Leader Team and the young people who will be embarking on an experience of a lifetime.

Before I say a brief word about the future, I would like to thank absolutely every leader, assistant leader, executive member and supporter of Scouting throughout Biggleswade and District, we could not run such a successful district without your continued input in providing and supporting challenging, fun and safe scouting for all.

To finish I would like to say how much I have enjoyed meeting all of you over the years and to being part of your Scouting Journey. Your support for me has been amazing and I will take many many memories, stories and life experiences with me as Ken and I move on to our new life in Northampton.

Once again to all my sincere thanks.

**Jan Brooker**

**District Commissioner**

## **Additional District Commissioner's Report**

In my first report as District Commissioner, I would first like to express my thanks to Jan Brooker, who has served the District with distinction over many years, for working so hard to enable a successful transition. I wish her and Ken every happiness in their new home in Northampton, and we would be delighted to see them visiting us in Biggleswade District whenever time and circumstances allow.

I have had quite a sharp learning curve since I took over as DC, and am sure I will keep learning new things for some time to come. I have visited a number of Group events and activities, and getting to know names and faces, although with so many people involved, it is a challenge to remember everyone, so apologies for when I don't recognise you or remember your names!

Jan has mentioned in her report some of the great successes with growth and development over the last year or so. I am delighted that Arlesey have now opened their new Cub Pack and that a number of other Groups have plans to open new sections to meet the high demand for Scouting that is currently being unmet across the District. I am also working with the Regional Development team to open a new Group in Biggleswade in early 2020, to meet the needs of the growing town.

I have been delighted to present Awards for Merit to Steve Gibbs, Andrew Panton and Sharon Betts and a Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Service to Emma Panton. I have one other Award for Merit to present, which if they are in attendance at the AGM, I will present there.

Looking to the District Team, I would like to welcome Jane Thompson, who is taking over from Jan as the Local Training Manager and David Moulton, who will be looking after the District Website, Social Media and IT. I am also in the process of recruiting a District Youth Commissioner and as Matt Panton has now stepped down as Network Commissioner, I am looking to fill that role too. The good news is that I have had interest from a number of people for both roles, so I am confident of identifying successful candidates in the near future.

Unfortunately, I have less success in finding volunteers to fill the District Chairman role that I left when I took up the DC role or the District Secretary role. If anyone knows of anyone suitable, please put them in contact with me.

I would like to thank every leader, assistant leader, executive member and supporter of Scouting throughout Biggleswade and District. The District is strong and growing and that is down to all of you. I look forward to working with you all for the years to come to continue on this successful journey.

**Rob Pullinger**  
**District Commissioner**

## **District Beaver Scout Report**

It has been another successful year for the Beavers in our District, there continues to be an expansion in numbers with extra colonies opening to try and keep up with the ever-increasing numbers on waiting lists.

We ran three successful District events this year – the campfire in April, Teddy Bears Picnic in May and our Around the World themed Damboree camp in June.

There were around 200 Beavers who took part in the Damboree either as day participants or spending the night under canvas! We had a fantastic badge designed by the winning Beaver which all Beavers and helpers earned.

This really successful camp couldn't have happened without all the help from various people around the District so a big thank you to all!

We are looking forward to introducing some more events next year with a badge day, cooking competition and skills day being looked in to.

**Tracey Murrell**

**Assistant District Commissioner (Beaver Scouts)**

## **District Cub Scout Report**

This year we have tried to have the District Events run by different packs, this has not been very successful. Only 2 Events have been arranged, Sports evening was arranged by Langford but due to bad weather was cancelled. Arlesey have organised a Shooting Competition on Nov 16th at Boyd Field which will go ahead.

The District Team said that we would only put on 2 Events the first was Ten Pin Bowling at St Neots Eat-N -Bowl which was well attended with Bobby Stevens of Arlesey A team with the highest score of 126, Second was Bonnie Read of Arlesey B team with a score of 111, a tie for Third Place, Upper Caldecote Joshua White, Henlow/Clifton Kieran Allen, both with a score of 110.

The team event saw Potton Leopards B Team was overall Winners with a Score of 96.2, second was Henlow Clifton Tigers with a score of 95, third was Gransden/Everton with a score of 91. This was a very close event so a Very Well Done to all who took part in the competition, and a Huge Thanks go to St Neots Eat-N-Bowl. We are looking forward to next year.

Our next Event is The Christmas Campfire Carol Service at Boyd Field On Wed 4th Dec at 7pm.

My thanks go to the Cubs District Team of Dave Bridges, Pauline and Clive Lenton also up until last Christmas Julie Broomfield who have all done a Tremendous Job .

**Bill Mapletoft**

**Assistant District Commissioner (Cub Scouts)**

## District Scout Report

This Academic year has seen a new group formed, with another group re opening their Scout Section after falling attendance caused its closure in 2018. After a slow start to get going Wixams group has gone from strength to strength with projected number of Scouts in September in the low 30's a very good number for a group who only opened less than a year ago, so a great well done to Craig Baker and his team of Leaders. Fairfield Scouts has re opened after a year being closed and has currently 15 Scouts attending, 5 of whom attended the District Summer Camp in July this year, with Wixams also having 13 who attended.

During the Summer term the District Shooting Competition was run, this year it was won by Potton Scouts a big thank you Paul Trustam for coordinating this event for District.

District Summer Camp at Glenbrook Activity Centre, Hope Valley in the Peak District was a great success we had 37 Scouts from 4 groups (Stotfold, Arlesey, Wixams and Fairfield) who attended this week long action packed camp. A very big thank you to Gemma Waghorn and the Leaders from Stotfold for organising this Event as well as the leaders from the other groups who attended.

District Challenge Hike 19th/20th October. In 2018 we had 20 teams entered from the Scout and Explorer section, this year we had 30 teams consisting of 184 young members taking part, the biggest turnout ever, this amazing achievement is tinged with sadness, as Andrew Reavell announced that this year would be the last that Team Reavell would organise due to increased family commitments. So a very heartfelt Thank you goes out to Mavis, Colin, Simon and Andy who have run this event since 2002.

After a year in research I was hoping too launch a new District Orienteering competition and have been working with the local orienteering club. At the moment I have marketed out as a Come and Try event which will be on the 17th November at Maulden Woods.

Last event in 2019 will be the District Survival Camp on 23rd/24th November run by Sarah Panton and the Leaders from Henlow Clifton.

In 2020 events will include a Cooking Competition, Quartermasters Stores and Chariot Race with Big Jam in June.

Jan Brooker will sadly be missed for her drive in District and her legacy should be that we continue to develop the District events calendar.

My thought for this coming year, challenges should really be seen as opportunities.

A big thank you to everyone who has given up their time to support District events this past year as without you they would not be as successful as they are.

**Neil Ludlow**

**Assistant District Commissioner (Scouts)**

## **District Explorer Scout Report**

There are 100 Explorers organised in 8 Units operating within the District. Given our rural environment each unit is closely associated with a Scout Group. The Units are all well run & they function independently. Each unit is operating with an active programme.

There were 7 explorers & 2 adult leaders from our District representing us at the World Scout Jamboree in Virginia, USA this summer. It was an incredible event & they will tell stories about it for a lifetime.

Young Leader training has continued during year with a number of different sessions running for those who help out with other sections. We have our first Young Leader training day coming up during November, when we will cover several training modules within the one session.

It's a pleasure working with so many committed Leaders.

**Phil Wood**

**District Explorer Scout Commissioner**



## District Treasurer's Report & Accounts

**Note:** The Treasurer for the 2018 financial year has not provided a report to the AGM. There are no specific items to call out from the accounts. Operating costs and income were in line with previous years. The income/expenditure is greater than 2017 as there was a BigJam camp in 2018. There was some additional capital expenditure, in particular the purchase and installation of fencing and the trim trail at the Boyd Field campsite.

I assumed my duties of treasurer in June 2019. We had had a seven month wait to get the Barclays Bank account up and running with the new signatories.

It has been a difficult time as none of the details of the last treasurer had been changed and lots of bills are going to the old treasurer from nearly two years ago and some to the previous treasurer. I was completely in the dark as Jan had left but had help from John & Heather Hilditch to steer me in the right direction.

Since June I have managed to get the accounts for 2018 audited, I have a good relationship with the accountant and they have agreed to do them again for us next year. I will aim to get them into the accountants by the end of March 2020.

I am now on the campsite bank account; I am still waiting to be put on the big jamboree account.

We have had a huge problem with the Natwest accounts, I have been trying to get the signatories changed since the beginning of July, they have not been at all co-operative and I have been told today that there is a backlog with changing the names as they have a system fault. There is no indication as to how long this will take and I have officially lodged a complaint with them. As soon as the Nat West accounts have now been transferred over the plan is to close these accounts and transfer the monies over to Barclays.

Once the accounts for the campsite have been put in the cloud it will be easier for me to get the invoices done regularly and checked if paid. It would be helpful if everyone that paid would put the invoice number as the reference as sometimes it's just a name and I have no idea who it is.

On a positive note I am getting to grips with the accounts and hopefully the basic things have been done so from now I can focus on the actual accounts.

The balances of the accounts dated 21/10/19 stand at:

Barclays Community £21,804.00

Barclays Campsite £1,889.82

Nat West Accounts: £13,589.61

Lloyds Accounts at the end of June:

Badge Shop: £5,607.98, float £20.00

Scout Shop: £9,637.40, float £52.59

**Anne Porter**  
**District Treasurer**

# **Biggleswade District Scout Council** **Receipts and Payments Account**

Year start date		Year end date	
For the year from	01/01/2018	To	31/12/2018

## **Receipts and payments**

	2018				2017
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
<b>Receipts</b>					
<b>Donations, legacies and similar income</b>					
Membership subscriptions	48,898	-	-	48,898	48,737
Less: Membership subscriptions paid on (National/County/Area/District) order figures with a minus sign	41,747	-	-	41,747	41,166
Net membership subscriptions retained	7,151	-	-	7,151	7,571
Donations	1,000	-	-	1,000	-
Legacies	-	-	-	-	-
Gift Aid	-	-	-	-	-
Other similar income	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>8,151</b>			<b>8,151</b>	<b>7,571</b>
<b>Grants</b>					
Maintenance grant	-	-	-	-	-
Other grants	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>					
<b>Fundraising (gross)</b>					
Boyd Memorial Campsite	27,299	-	-	27,299	19,370
District Events	17,851	-	-	17,851	3,859
Scout Shop	14,769	-	-	14,769	9,725
Sale Of Badges	8,779	-	-	8,779	7,985
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>68,698</b>			<b>68,698</b>	<b>40,939</b>
<b>Investment Income</b>					
Bank interest	12	-	-	12	1
Building Society interest	-	-	-	-	-
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service	-	-	-	-	-
Property Rent Income	-	-	-	-	-
Other investment income	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>12</b>			<b>12</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Total Gross Income</b>	<b>76,861</b>			<b>76,861</b>	<b>48,511</b>
<b>Asset and Investment sales, etc.</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>76,861</b>			<b>76,861</b>	<b>48,511</b>

# wade District Scout Council Receipts and Payments Account

Year start date

Year end date

For the year from	01/01/2018	To	31/12/2018
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## Receipts and payments

	2018			2017
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
<b>Payments</b>				
<b>Charitable Payments</b>				
Youth programme and activities	-	-	-	-
Adult support and training	-	-	-	-
Rent	-	-	-	-
Water and Sewerage	-	-	-	-
Electricity and Gas	-	-	-	-
Insurance	-	-	-	-
Repairs and Renewals	-	-	-	-
Materials and equipment	-	-	-	-
Printing and photocopying	-	-	-	-
Contribution to camp costs	-	-	-	-
Uniforms/Badges	19,290	-	-	19,290
Sundries	28	-	-	28
Bboyd Campsite Costs	35,821	-	-	35,821
District Events	23,003	-	-	23,003
Equipment	12,550	-	-	12,550
New Group Start Up Grants	950	-	-	950
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>91,642</b>			<b>91,642</b>
<b>Fundraising expenses</b>				
Detail 1	-	-	-	-
Detail 2	-	-	-	-
Detail 3	-	-	-	-
Other fundraising costs	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>				
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>91,642</b>			<b>91,642</b>
<b>Asset and investment purchases, etc.</b>				
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>91,642</b>			<b>91,642</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>				<b>14,781</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>				
<b>Cash funds last year end</b>				
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>91,642</b>			<b>14,781</b>

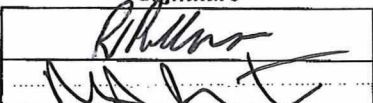


# Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

	2018			2017	
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Cash funds</b>					
Bank current account	59,328	-	-	59,328	75,637
Bank deposit account	13,590	-	-	13,590	13,578
Building society account	-	-	-	-	-
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service	-	-	-	-	-
Cash/Floata	465	-	-	465	469
<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>73,383</b>			<b>73,383</b>	<b>89,684</b>
<b>Other monetary assets</b>					
Debts due from the County/Area/District/Group	-	-	-	-	-
Adjustments to opening balance	856	-	-	856	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>856</b>			<b>856</b>	
<b>Investment assets</b>					
Investment property - detail	-	-	-	-	-
Quoted investments	-	-	-	-	-
Other investments - detail	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>					
<b>Non monetary assets for charity's own use</b>					
Badge stock	5,409	-	-	5,409	5,286
Shop stock	9,445	-	-	9,445	8,138
Other stock	-	-	-	-	-
Land and buildings	-	-	-	-	-
Motor vehicles	-	-	-	-	-
Scouting equipment, furniture etc	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>14,854</b>			<b>14,854</b>	<b>13,424</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>					
Accounts not yet paid	2,970	-	-	2,970	594
Expenses incurred but not invoiced	-	-	-	-	-
Subscriptions not yet paid	-	-	-	-	-
Loan - detail	-	-	-	-	-
Other liabilities	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>2,970</b>			<b>2,970</b>	<b>594</b>

Contingent liabilities and future obligations

The above receipts and payments account and

Signature	Print Name
	Chair R M PULLINGER
	Treasurer M. A. Porter (Mrs)

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees on the Trustees on the unaudited Financial Statements of Biggleswade and District Scout Council.**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018 which are set out on pages 1 to 3.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



**Martin Williams ACA FCCA**

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**16 October 2019**