

# Preston and District Scout Council – 111<sup>th</sup> AGM

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2022 – 10<sup>th</sup> Fulwood

## Notes of the Meeting

Welcome and Introductions	The Chairman, Andy Acklam thanked everybody for attending the meeting and also thanked 10 <sup>th</sup> Fulwood for providing the venue for the meeting. The Chairman's report is attached at page 6.
Apologies for absence	Apologies were received from Michael Lawson, John Woods, George Lowe, Janet Percy and Norma Bruce
Minutes of 110th AGM held Tuesday 13th July 2021	The minutes of the 110 <sup>th</sup> AGM were proposed as a true record by Keith Jamieson and seconded by Sarah Halliwell
Matters Arising	There were no matters arising from the minutes
Annual Reports and Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2021 and William Fazackerley Trust	<p>Janet Percy the District Treasurer was unable to attend the meeting but the following notes relating to the summarised statement of accounts (see below, pages 7 &amp; 8) for Preston &amp; District Scout Council 2021 were provided by Janet and read out at the meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Income &amp; expenditure for events &amp; camps was greatly reduced due to Covid.</li><li>• Guernsey 2020 refunds: money paid in in late 2019 (before Covid), which was held in our account in 2020 in the hope that the camp would be run in 2021, but this was not possible, so £19269 was repaid to families. This has led to a negative figure for nett resources, which should be a one-off.</li><li>• The way Membership Fees to West Lancs / HQ are accounted for has changed after advice from our Independent Examiner (Richard Crowther). In 2020 the figure shown is the surplus held by the District after paying West Lancs. The comparable 2021 surplus was £3344.</li><li>• The Gift Aid repayment in 2021 included a payment for 2020 (when no application was made). Thanks to Darren Whitman for his work over many years collating</li></ul>

	<p>the information from our Explorer Scout Units &amp; making these claims.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In an effort to make our assets more transparent the 2021 column includes shop stock and badge stock, as well as the balance held on the Equals spending cards.</li> <li>• Many thanks to Dot Livingstone for her work as Badge Secretary. Groups are encouraged to buy all their badges from our Badge Secretary as all profits made support scouting activities in Preston.</li> <li>• Many thanks to John Bailey for his work over many years setting up &amp; running our Scout Shop. He has now taken a step back &amp; the Shop Team, now led by Norma Bruce &amp; assisted by Dot &amp; Brian Livingstone, have worked hard to sell off surplus shop stock so that the focus is now primarily on uniform sales. The District Executive are encouraging Groups to use our Scout Shop for uniform &amp; neckerchief orders. Again all profits made support scouting activities in our District.</li> <li>• Thanks to Richard Crowther for carrying out an independent examination of these accounts &amp; for his valuable advice.</li> <li>• I will be available to answer questions regarding the District finances at the AGM or email me:  <a href="mailto:janet.percy@prestonscouts.org.uk">janet.percy@prestonscouts.org.uk</a></li> </ul> <p>Andrew Acklam also provided an overview of the Fazackerly Trust and examples of grants that have been provided to support scouting activities, e.g., leader adventure training and support to a young person to enable them to go on camp. Andrew said that the Trust welcomes applications from individuals who require support to carry out scouting activities.</p>
<p>Approve the District Constitution</p>	<p>Approval of the District Constitution which remains unchanged from the previous year (see below, page 9) was proposed by Mark Woodhouse and seconded by Jo Rhodes</p>
<p>Appointment of the District Chairman Ed Bettess</p>	<p>Warren Frost welcomed Ed Bettess to the meeting and introduced Ed as the new District Chairman.</p>

Address by the District Commissioner	Warren Frost's address is shown below at page 13
To elect a District Secretary Joanne Rhodes	Kevin Stickley proposed that Joanne Rhodes be appointed District Secretary and this was seconded by Andrew Clare
To elect a District Treasurer Janet Percy	Harry McGaghey proposed that Janet Percy be appointed District Treasurer and this was seconded by Clare Kennedy
To elect the following Members of the Scout Council to the District Executive: Karen Campbell Brian Livingstone Keith Jamieson Sarah Halliwell Michael Lawson Josh Hoyle	Sue Jepson proposed that Karen Campbell, Brian Livingstone, Keith Jamieson, Sarah Halliwell, Michael Lawson and Simon McGlen be elected as members of the Scout Council to the District Executive. This proposal was seconded by Lesley Ann Stickley
To approve the DC's nominations to serve on the District Executive Paul Moon DDC Clare Kennedy DDC Paul Turner (Chair of Appointments)	Andrew Clare proposed approval of the DCs nominations to serve on the District Executive – Paul Moon (DDC), Claire Kennedy (DDC) and Paul Turner (Chair of Appointments). This proposal was seconded by Seena Bux
Review of Shop	<p>The following summary was read out by Warren Frost. The full report is shown below at page 18.</p> <p>The district shop has seen a significant increase in customers over recent months. A decision has been taken to focus on uniform, neckerchiefs and woggles. There have been difficulties obtaining stock following the pandemic, but the situation seems to be easing now. Sales have been held over a number of weekends to dispose of old (non-uniform) stock. The items that did not sell were either sold on ebay or donated to Ukraine and local schools. During the year, 6<sup>th</sup> Fulwood have upgraded the storage space for the shop stock and we are grateful to them for allowing the shop to trade from their headquarters each week.</p>

	<p>Unfortunately, John Bailey who founded the shop, and devoted a lot of his time to running it, has had to step down due to ill health. We sincerely thank John for all his hard work and dedication to the shop and wish him well. Thankfully, Brian and Dorothy Livingstone have agreed to take over the ordering of stock for the shop and Janet Percy has taken over the shop finances. We would like to thank Brian, Dorothy, Janet and the shop volunteers for keeping the shop open as there are now no outlets in the town centre to obtain uniform and the shop is providing income for the district.</p> <p>The shop currently has 5 volunteers who staff the rota to serve customers each week on Wednesdays from 6-8pm, term time only. Extra help is always appreciated. If anybody would like to join the shop staff rota, please contact Karen Campbell.</p>
<p>Address by County Commissioner</p>	<p>Craig Dewar-Willox said that the last 2 years have been very challenging because of the pandemic and gave thanks to all adult volunteers. Craig said that the impact of the pandemic is still evident, particularly in young people who have suffered, for example, losses of social skills and language development. Craig said that Scouting does provide an answer to addressing some of the issues experienced.</p> <p>Craig said that he felt hesitant about the launch of the Squirrel sections so soon after the pandemic but now, having seen the drays in operation, he has no doubts that the section was launched at the right time. He cited the joy on children's faces at meetings he has visited and the impact of the activities. He said that there are plenty of willing adult volunteers within the Squirrel section and it is hoped that some of these parents will remain in scouting and progress into other sections as their children progress on their scouting journey.</p> <p>Craig said that he has had many complements from people outside of scouting who have said how great scouting was during the pandemic and the positive impact it had on young people. Craig said how well everybody did in the pandemic and that scouting has come through stronger and that we must celebrate the joy of scouting. He said that waiting lists are growing and members should be proud of their</p>

	<p>achievements.</p> <p>Craig thanked everybody for all they have done and all that they will be doing going forward.</p>										
<p>Acknowledgment of Awards</p>	<p>The County and District Commissioner presented the following awards at the meeting:</p> <table data-bbox="544 533 1267 741"> <tr> <td>Seena Bux</td> <td>Wood Beads</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Harry McGaghey</td> <td>Ten years' service</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Joanna Taylor</td> <td>Award of Merit</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gwen Quayle</td> <td>Bar to the Award for Merit</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clare Kennedy</td> <td>Silver Acorn</td> </tr> </table> <p>A full list of awards is shown below at page 14.</p> <p>Warren also presented a gift to Andy Acklam in appreciation of his membership and Chairmanship of the Executive Committee over the last 20 years.</p>	Seena Bux	Wood Beads	Harry McGaghey	Ten years' service	Joanna Taylor	Award of Merit	Gwen Quayle	Bar to the Award for Merit	Clare Kennedy	Silver Acorn
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Clare Kennedy	Silver Acorn										
<p>Closing Remarks</p>	<p>Ed Bettess formally introduced himself and provided an account of his scouting life and said that he was pleased to take on the role of Chairman and regards it as a way of contributing to Scouting in a different manner to his previous roles. Ed thanked all of the leaders and thanked Andy Acklam for his service on the Executive Committee and as Chairman. Ed also gave thanks to Warren for all the work he does as DC.</p> <p>The meeting was closed by Ed Bettess, the new Chairman.</p>										

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## Chairman's Report – Andy Acklam, District Chairman

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This 2021 AGM report shows that all the hard work by leaders across District has seen the us emerge strongly from the uncertainty of the last 2 years. I have to take my hat off to leaders and supporters throughout the District and beyond who have enjoyed the highs and worked through the lows, and there have been a few, to keep Young People getting out and enjoying their Scouting.

This AGM will be my last as Chairman of the District, it is over twenty years since I first joined the District Exec and many things have changed over that time, but the dedication of the team remains as strong as ever. I think having people rotate through teams is always helpful to bring in fresh ideas and renewed enthusiasm so I have no doubt that the District team will continue to strengthen the District and provide excellent support to Groups and units across Preston. Thank you for support over the years.

**Andy Acklam**

**District Chairman**

## Annual Accounts

PRESTON & DISTRICT SCOUTS  
 YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021  
 Summarised Statement of Financial Activities

	2021	2020
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		
Events & Camps	5,273	27,659
District Shop Receipts (including sale of excess stock)	11,296	5,466
Badge Income	4,899	2,629
Guernsey 2020	1,220	0
Membership Subscriptions	42,290	5,721
Faz Trust	305	0
Gift Aid	1,931	0
Fundraising	876	984
Donations & Grants	289	393
Bank Interest & Dividends	8	6
Training provided for other Districts	0	15
Holding on behalf of Groups (46 <sup>th</sup> Preston)	2,995	0
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>70,787</b>	<b>42,876</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		
Membership Fees to West Lancs	88,945	0
Events & Camps	3,076	25,355
Guernsey 2020 refunds	19,269	0
District Shop Expenses (inc Shop Sale)	10,081	6,186
Faz Trust	305	0
Training	100	60
Gift Aid to ESUs	1,931	0
Materials & Equipment	281	1,366
Postage Printing & Licences	647	551
Fundraising	570	330
Donations & Grants	542	0
Rent of premises	0	62
Badge Expenditure	3,068	4,544
OSM	1,754	0
District Team expenses	58	0
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>80,628</b>	<b>98,485</b>
Next incoming / (outgoing) resources for the	(9,841)	4,391
Cash funds last year end	55,847	51,456
Surplus/(Deficit) for year	(9,841)	4,391
Cash funds this year end	46,006	55,847
Treasurers Account	12,162	24,363
BB Inst Online (held for Explorers) Red Rose 2022	3,843	313
Bus Bank Instant (savings)	30,001	31,171
<b>TOTAL CASH FUNDS</b>	<b>46,006</b>	<b>55,847</b>
Equals Cards	301	
Shop Stock (uniform only)	6,584	
Badge stock	1,048	
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>53,939</b>	<b>55,847</b>

Preston and District Scout Group

Independent Examiner's Report to the Preston and District Scout Group

I report on the accounts of the Preston and District Scout Group for the year ended 31 December 2021 which comprise of the Summarised Statement of Financial Activities.

Respective responsibilities of Fundraising Group members and examiner

Preston and District Scout Group is responsible for the preparation of the accounts. My responsibility is to examine the accounts and state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

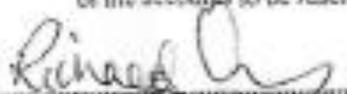
Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of accounting records kept by Preston and District Scout Group and a comparison of the accounts presented to those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and the seeking of explanations from you as Preston and District Scout Group concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Unqualified Statement

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

- which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:  
(a) to keep accounting records and  
(b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011 and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met, or
- to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Richard Anthony Crowther BA(Hons) FCA BDip MCI Arb  
19 Lorton Close  
Fulwood  
PRESTON  
PR2 8YS

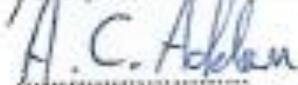
Date: 15 MAY 2022

Statement of the Trustees

The trustees report and financial statements were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:



J. Pacey - District Treasurer



A Acklam - District Chairman

15.5.22  
Date

16 May 2022  
Date

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## Constitution

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### Constitution of Preston & District Scout Council 2022

Preston & District Scout Council is a Scout District as defined in the Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR) of the Scout Association. It is duly registered with the UK Headquarters of the Scout Association. Its boundaries are defined in that registration.

It is comprised of a number of Scout Groups and Explorer Scout Units. It has, in addition, a District Scout Network and a District Scout Active Support Unit. The District is organised and operated in accordance with the rules of POR. In particular as described in those rules:

- i) It is an autonomous organisation holding its property and equipment and admitting people to membership of the District subject to the policy and rules of The Scout Association.
- (ii) It is led by a District Commissioner and managed by a District Executive Committee. They are accountable to the Preston and District Scout Council for the satisfactory running of the District.

#### **The District Scout Council**

Preston & District Scout Council is the electoral body which supports Scouting in the District. It is the body to which the District Executive Committee is accountable. Membership of the District Scout Council consists of:

Members as a result of their position (ex officio)

District President;\*

District Vice-Presidents;

District Chairman;\*

District Commissioner;\*

District Youth Commissioner;

District Secretary;

District Treasurer;\*

Deputy District Commissioner;

District Explorer Scout Commissioner;

District Scout Network Commissioner;

Assistant District Commissioners;

District Scouters;

District Advisers;

District Administrators;

Manager, District Scout Active Support Unit

Local Training Manager

All Explorer Scouts;

District Scout Network Members;

Chair of Troop Leadership Forums in the District;

Members and Associate Members of the Movement registered in the District

and including Members of the District Scout Active Support Unit

All parents of Explorer Scouts;

Persons elected or reelected annually by the District Scout Council on the recommendation of the District Commissioner and the District Executive;

The County Commissioner and County Chairman are ex officio members of the District Scout Council.

\*These District Office holders are trustees of the William Fazakerley Trust. (qv, Annex 2, below)

Membership of the District Scout Council ceases upon:

the resignation of the member;

the dissolution of the Council;

the termination of membership by Headquarters following a recommendation by the District Executive Committee.

The District Scout Council must hold an Annual General Meeting within six months of the financial year end to:

- approve the Annual Report of the District Executive Committee, including the annual statement of accounts;
- approve the District Commissioner's nomination of the District Chairman and nominated members of the District Executive Committee;
- elect a District Secretary unless the District Secretary is employed by the District Executive Committee;
- elect a District Treasurer;
- elect certain members of the District Executive Committee;
- appoint an auditor or independent examiner or scrutineer as required.

### **The District Executive Committee**

i. The District Executive Committee exists to support the District Commissioner in meeting the responsibilities of the appointment and to provide support for Scout Groups, Explorer Scout Units, Scout Network and Scout Active Support Units in the District.

ii. The District Executive Committee consists of:

Members as a result of their position (ex officio)

\* The District Chairman;

\* The District Commissioner;

\* The District Youth Commissioner;

\* The District Secretary;

\* The District Treasurer;

\* The District Explorer Scout Commissioner;

\* The District Scout Network Commissioner;

### **Nominated members**

\* persons nominated by the District Commissioner;

\* the nominations must be approved at the District Annual General Meeting.

\* persons nominated need not be members of the District Scout Council and their number must not exceed that of the elected members.

### **Elected members**

\* persons elected at the District Annual General Meeting,

\* these should normally be four to six in number;

\* the actual number must be the subject of a resolution of the District Scout Council.

### **Co-opted members**

\* persons co-opted annually by the District Executive Committee,

\* the number of co-opted members must not exceed the number of members who may be elected.

### **Right of Attendance**

\* the County Commissioner and the County Chairman have the right of attendance at meetings of the District Executive Committee.

iii. The District Executive Committee may establish any sub-Committees that it deems necessary. Sub-Committees consist of members nominated by the Committee.

iv. The District Commissioner and the District Chairman will be ex officio members of any sub-Committee of the District Executive Committee.

v. Any fund raising committee must include at least two members of the District Executive Committee, in addition to the ex officio members. No Section Leader or Assistant Leader should serve on such a fund raising sub-committee. POR Rule 4.25 f (v).vi. The Scout District is an educational charity. Members of the District Executive Committee are the charity trustees of the Scout District.

vii. Only persons aged 18 and over may be full voting members of the District Executive Committee because of their status as charity trustees.

viii. Certain people are disqualified from being charity trustees by virtue of the Charities Acts.

ix. Charity trustees are responsible for complying with all the legislation applicable to charities.

x. Preston & District is not required to register as a charity.

xi. The District Executive Committee is responsible for:

- Ensuring that Young People are meaningfully involved in decision making at all levels within the District
- promoting the development of Scouting in the District and arranging for harmonious co-operation with other organisations;
- the safe operation of Scouting within the District.
- the raising of funds and the administration of the District's finance and property, including the Explorer Scout Units
- appointing a District Appointments sub-Committee, and a Chairman of such a sub-Committee.
- appointing other sub-Committees and their Chairmen as the Committee may require;
- supervising the administration of Groups, particularly in relation to finance and the trusteeship of property;
- attending to district administration, particularly:
  - matters relating to Leader Appointments
  - the appointment of Section Assistants and Skills Instructors, Administrators and Advisers;
  - registrations, membership of the Movement, appointing an Assistant Secretary as Badge Secretary for the District;
  - the presentation of an Annual Report and annual statement of accounts to the Annual General Meeting of the District Scout Council.
  - Supervising the administration of Groups, particularly in relation to finance and the trusteeship of property.

### **Conduct of Meetings in the Scout District**

i. In meetings of the District Scout Council and the District Executive Committee only the members specified may vote.

ii. Decisions are made by a majority of votes of those present at the meeting. In the event of an

equal number

of votes being cast on either side in any issue the chairman does not have a casting vote and the matter is

taken not to have been carried.

iii. The District Scout Council must make a resolution defining a quorum for meetings of the Council and the

District Executive Committee and its sub-Committees. Quorum set at five.

The Executive will meet as required according to an agreed annual schedule, notified to members. Additional special meetings of the Executive may be called. At least one week's notice must be given of any special meetings.

#### ANNEX 1

The District Executive has chosen to establish the following sub-committees in addition to the Appointments

Committee required by the constitution.

Finance and Fund Raising Committee

District Support Team

Appointments sub-committee The terms of reference of each of these sub committees are shown as appendices to this document.

#### ANNEX 2

The Fazakerley Trust

In 1992, the Preston & District Scout Council received a legacy from a former Scouter and Vice-President - William (Bill) Fazakerley. The amount was £37,000 and it was decided to set up a Charitable Trust to manage these funds with the purpose of promoting the Scout Movement in Preston & District. In particular, to increase Scouts' knowledge, understanding and appreciation of P.O.R. as well as the activities of the District; to create, maintain and fund grants, financial assistance, prizes and awards for Scouts to further their education and advancement within the Scout Movement; to provide financial assistance to Scouts who are disadvantaged.

The Trust receives applications for grants from Scout Groups, individual Scouts, Explorer Scout Units and, occasionally, from District Sections. The applications are examined by the William Fazakerley Trust Committee, four of whom are presently the Trustees.

Appendix 1: The District Appointments sub-Committee: P.O.R., Rule 4.25 g.

Appendix 2: The Finance and Fund Raising sub-Committee: P.O.R., Rule 4.67 to 4.72.

Appendix 3: The District Team: P.O.R., Rule 4.25 h.

### **The Constitution of Preston & District Scout Council**

The Constitution of Preston & District Scout Council will be approved by the AGM of the District and reviewed at least every three years or earlier as required if changes are to be made.

This constitution was approved by the AGM of the District Scout Council held on 13th July 2021

Signed on behalf of the Council

Chairman of the 2021 AGM.

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## Address – Warren Frost, District Chairman

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"What a difference a year makes. Since the last AGM we returned to face-to-face scouting, delivering full programmes in all sections both indoors and outside.

Despite being in lockdown we continued to look at taking Preston district forward with plans for additional sections within thriving groups, opening new groups and new sections. Once we were back to face to face, we have opened:

47th Preston - Olive school with beavers and cubs with planning in place for a scout section opening this coming September

10th Fulwood opened a 2nd cub section and scout section.

2nd Lea reopened their beavers and succeeded in securing a GSL

Preston Central secured a new GSL and exc committee.

46th Preston and 1st Ashton merged to become Ashton Central making for a stronger group

Squirrels dray has been started at Broughton with hopefully further drays opening in Grimsargh, Fulwood and Ashton areas in the next 12 months

New heads of sections and roles have been successful

SASU manager and youth commissioner appointed, with potential volunteers for the vacancy of network commissioner and local training manager to be appointed

New head of media and media team and development of Preston district online

Most sections and groups have increased in size, despite lockdown, and this was reflected in this year's census by increasing our membership

Now we have returned to face to face the young people are thriving and taking the opportunity to get outdoors and partake in camping either within their own sections and groups, district or county events.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everybody who has made all this possible as it is not a one man show

So thank you to the young people and their families for supporting groups and events.

Thank you to the district Exc, district teams and sections, GSL's and their leaders, occasional helpers, Exc teams."

Unfortunately some leaders have had to step from roles due to end of term or family commitments, so a big thank you to May, Sarah, Lesley, Christopher, Ian, Megan, Nick, Margaret for all their commitment to scouting in Preston.

We will be seeing a change in our Executive committee as Andy is stepping down from his role as chair. A huge thank you to Andy for his commitment, support and help in moving Preston District to the excellent position we are in. We welcome Edward Bettess who has volunteered to take on this role.

I look forward to next 12 months with more exciting developments and adventures within Preston District scouting

**Warren Frost**  
**District Commissioner Preston**

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**Awards**

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<u>Awardee Name</u>	<u>Award</u>
Thomas Bennett	Chief Scout's Commendation
Douglas Campbell	Chief Scout's Commendation
Molly Clare	Chief Scout's Commendation
Stuart Fishwick	Chief Scout's Commendation
Benjamin Hall	Chief Scout's Commendation
Paul Havey	Chief Scout's Commendation
William (Billy) Hefferon	Chief Scout's Commendation
Karen Watkinson	Chief Scout's Commendation
Cheryl Grindrod	Chief Scout's Commendation
Thomas Ashworth	Chief Scout's Commendation
Sarah Baldwin	Chief Scout's Commendation
Charlot Podmore-Nappin	Chief Scout's Commendation
David (Dave) Horton	Chief Scout's Commendation
Lesley-Ann Stickle	Chief Scout's Commendation
Kevin Stickle	Chief Scout's Commendation
Elisabeth Cooke	Chief Scout's Commendation
Doreen Worden	Silver Wolf
Clare Kennedy	Silver Acorn
Gwen Quayle	Bar to the Award for Merit
Stuart Dean	Silver Acorn
Max Lowe	Bar to the Award for Merit
Olivia Clare	Chief Scout's Commendation
Karl Street	Chief Scout's Commendation
Stewart Butler-Mitchell	Chief Scout's Commendation
Hazel Butler-Mitchell	Chief Scout's Commendation
Thomas Astley	Chief Scout's Commendation

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## Section Reports – Beavers

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2020 and 2021 for Beaver Scouting in Preston has been a challenge or two! Many of us overcame the lack of face to face contact by setting up zoom meetings, zoom camps, zoom activity days - Christmas, and zoom challenges - 35th Birthday Challenge - 35 days of fun! Others took time dedicated to work and family. All mindful of looking after each other and ourselves. Consequently some people decided to bow out and step away from Beaver Scouts and we thank them for their hard work and service; Others have stayed on and are now back in the forefront running nearly as normal.

We are continuing to grow and see many Beaver Scouts enjoy a wide variety of weekly Scouting Activities. And we hope to re instate or tweak some of the fun filled and adventurous activities we have enjoyed in the past. Having said that we have had a few as can be seen later on. The programme enables all groups to embrace Scouting and the outdoors and having visited all groups they certainly provided the Young People with many opportunities to learn new skills and traditional Scouting activities since the f2f return. Some badges remain a challenge as we move forward and we work together at District Meetings and through events to help all to share ideas and support each other. One area we thrive at is the Youth Shape initiative - putting the programme ideas in the hands of our Beavers - this has enabled the young people to be more involved in planning the activities they do each week, and we at District level are listening too. We have considered that people will be cautious about “normal” and will want to spend time getting back to colony and group activities before embracing the District and the County. That said we had an amazing District Halloween sleepover in October and plan another for later this year. We have also run a Winter Olympics Activity day and enjoyed skiing, hockey, “snowball fights” and curling. We joined the County for Spring Olympics and will get together again next weekend for “Paddle and Waddle” before we have a Scavenger Hunt around Preston in October. Moving forward we will look at past events, our ever changing world and our requests and plan for a fun 2023 as a County and as a District. I want to thank everyone for their encouragement, support and hard work over the last 2 years - its not been easy: your advice, encouragement, participation and skills (new and old) have been indispensable. Thank you to my District team - Lindsay, Norma, Lydia, Lesley-Ann, Louise, Phil, and Karina; all the Beaver Scout Leaders and Young Leaders, and all parents and young people. The continued enthusiasm, commitment, and dedication is apparent and reflected by the presentation of over 100 Chief Scout Bronze Awards during the last year - a tremendous achievement during a challenging time - amazing how the certificates magically appeared in a beaver scouts house from mine via the internet!! We have indeed persevered and overcome and found lots of new ways to communicate and move forward and above all - scout! Thank you and here’s to more fun and friendship and adventure in 2023.

**Caroline Colley**  
**ADC Beavers Scouts**

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## Section Reports – Cubs

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As I reflect back 12 months, we were just (especially here in Preston) starting to be able to meet together again, although in many cases outdoors. Packs meetings were spent watching the weather forecast and making the most of local parks or what outdoor space we could. But it hadn't stopped everything – Cubs still enjoyed things and Chief Scout's Silver Awards were still presented.

For some Packs, lockdown was harder than for others. Zoom meetings hadn't been for everyone, and not everyone's meeting place had outdoor space handy, or the scope for 1-way systems, hand sanitiser stations, 2m spacing and all that came with the restrictions at the time...

However, it's been great to see the steady flow of requests to present Chief Scout's Silver Awards. And as I always say, it's a big deal but also a big team effort which hinges on the dedication of our leaders in putting together the programme. Congratulations to all those Cubs who have achieved this – and their Leaders!

In September, the District diary started to move, slowly. Firstly, we welcomed a new Cub Pack at 47<sup>th</sup> Preston (Olive School). Then we came together for our first activity – Pack of the Year in November. Before Christmas, there was a panto visit and then after a short hiatus our activity afternoon just before Easter. Finally, in May nearly 120 Cubs descended on Bibby's Farm for an activity day of pioneering, fire lighting, grass sledging and more.

I'm very grateful to the District Cub Leader team, and it's been especially encouraging to welcome Jordan Pullen, Kevin Stickley and Tom Elcomb to work alongside our existing members Gwen Quayle, Heather Clark and Sarah Lawler. Thank you all.

Here's to a restriction-free year ahead...!

**John Woods**  
**ADC Cubs**

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## Section Reports – Scouts

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Recently I have visited a lot of groups in Preston, which I have really enjoyed, and I look forward to my last few meetings. A lot of things have impressed me during these visits: one of these being how well our Scout Leaders have managed to keep groups so strong and continue to meet in whatever form, during the restrictions of the last 2 years.

Groups held strong on- line meetings, with treasure hunts and cooking, amongst other things,

being held on Zoom meetings. As restrictions lifted, Leaders began to organise meetings outdoors, running games nights on local parks, litter picking or local walks.

We began to look at holding District events, and last year we adapted the Challenge Award: In order for Scouts to be able to achieve this award we removed the need for travel and the need to sleep away, and held the event over 2 days as 'An exploration of Preston'

Day 1 was spent at various locations around the city, which participants had to locate and visit utilising the Preston Bus routes. Advance notice was given, so Leaders were able to prepare the Scouts for what may lie ahead. Scouts had to utilise the What3words app to locate all sorts of interesting and historical things around Preston such as hidden wells, Monuments, hidden paths steeped in folklore: they also had to cook a meal out in the open air for their lunch.

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> day we organised similar discovery activities within the city centre, these included visits to parks, discovering statues, and finding buildings with 3 doors on 3 different streets! The event was a great success and all the Scouts who completed the 2 days gained their Challenge Badge.

Winter camp couldn't happen this year in the same form it has, and we continue to look for alternative locations, but feel that GT has become restrictive in its accommodation and cost. Instead we held our first camp at Bibby's Farm in April, a survival themed camp with outdoor cooking, paracord bracelet making, firelighting and sleeping in frost covered tents. Scouts and Leaders all enjoyed the event and everyone was really pleased to be back together again. County Rally was held in May, we catered for over 150 Scouts and Leaders at Duncans Diner, our leaders covered some of the activities and Preston District Leaders became Security for the night : we were asked to be the Bouncers at the silent disco. Another very successful event with a fabulous atmosphere. My Thanks to Steve Williams and Karl Asley-Street and their team for the organisation and planning.

The Bowlander event was well attended, I even got up at 5 to help Mark Woodhouse and his team at the start. Mark, as usual, had everything in perfect order and the start of the event ran flawlessly. I am reliably informed that the rest of the weekend was equally good, but I went home to bed so will have to trust my sources!

Looking forward we have a 1<sup>st</sup> Aid competition on our calendar for September and hope to repeat the Ice Skating event which Nigel Holmes kindly opened up to all the District last Christmas, as a District event in December.

Thankfully these restrictions are becoming just a memory, but our Scout Groups continue to grow in strength and gather momentum going forward.

**Sue Jepson**

**ADC - Preston District Scouts**

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## Section Reports – Explorers

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The Explorer Section has had a fantastic year, and we are so proud of all our young people have

done and achieved. We kicked September off with the Mountain Adventure Challenge (MAC), where the explorers have to plan and navigate over a specified route in the Lake District, then camping overnight and cooking a hearty tea over stoves. Moving into February we had our annual District Dodgeball Competition, with Mungo Park taking home our unique trophy. In addition to this, we have also started some District Walking days and District Service Team Weekends, this has seen a mix of explorers go to the Lake District and have a day on the hill with well-trained leaders, and spend the weekend at Waddecar taking part in some site service and giving back to the site.

This is only the exiting things the district has done, that doesn't tell you about all the brilliant activities the individual units have been up to, this year we have had a whole raft of platinum and diamond awards been given out, an that number is still climbing. Our Explorers have been on multiple nights away camping, with lots more to look forward to. We are looking forward to Red Rose 2022 this summer for a week's international camp with over 50 explorers signed up. Finally I would like to thank the inspiring leaders who continue to provide all these experiences for our young people and to the young people themselves who provide us with laughs, challenges and inspire us with all they do.

**Harry McGaghey**  
**District Explorer Scout Commissioner**

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## Shop Report

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Before we start the formal report, many of you will be aware, that John Bailey has had to step down as the District Shop Manager, due to Health Reasons.

On behalf of all the Shop Team, we would like to thank John for all that he has done over the Years, with setting up and managing the District Shop.

Since the Last meeting, and Face – 2 – Face Scouting has resumed, the Shop has gone from strength to strength.

Following John's Departure from the Shop Team, we would like to welcome Dot and Brian Livingstone, who have joined the Team, to assist with the Ordering and Delivery of Uniform and Items from HQ / Scout Stores.

Our main aim since Lockdown, has been to sort out the Current Stock, and Try to sell off all the old Hoodies, Polos, T-Shirts, and Gifts / Accessories, that were left over from Red Rose 2018, and taking up space in our Shop Cupboard, and also 6<sup>th</sup> Fulwood's Camp Stores.

Following 2 very successful Shop Sale Events and we are pleased to say that 90% of the items have been sold. Some of the remaining items have been put on Scout Bay (similar to E-Bay), and the remaining items were donated to the Ukraine Appeal.

On behalf of the shop Team, please may we thank everyone who helped on the 2 days, from Setting Up, to Running the Stalls and assisting in the Kitchen and with Car Parking.

Uniform Sales have also been back on the rise, over recent months, now that all groups are back Face – 2 – Face and Investing more Young People and Leaders.

Since Lockdown, we have updated our Shop Facebook Page, and this has helped massively, as a lot of Parents and Leaders, have been contacting the Team via this, to see what we have in stock, and pre order Uniform, where possible.

We have also had Parents and Leaders, from other Districts, contact us via the Facebook Page, requesting Uniform, which is good publicity for us as a District and a Shop.

We could still do with a few more Volunteer's, to assist with the Shop (Wednesday's 6 – 8pm, 6<sup>th</sup> Fulwood HQ), if interested, please speak to a member of the Shop Team.

On behalf of the Shop Team, may we thank everyone within the Preston & District, and Also West Lancs, for the continued support.

**Ali Gibb, Karen Campbell, Norma Bruce, Andy Lether, Mark Billington, Dot & Brian Livingstone**

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## Present at the Meeting

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Warren Frost	District Commissioner
Craig Dewar-Wilcox	County Commissioner
Andy Acklam	Outgoing Chairman
Ed Bettess	New Chairman
Jo Rhodes	District Secretary
Zoe Frost	1 <sup>st</sup> Broughton
Karen Campbell	Exec member /1 <sup>st</sup> Cottam
Sarah Halliwell	Exec member /AADC Scouts
Paul Moon	DDC
Clare Kennedy	DDC
Susan Wilding	SASU
Brian Livingstone	Exec member / 6 <sup>th</sup> Fulwood
Dorothy Livingstone	District Badge Secretary
Keith Jamieson	Exec member / 1 <sup>st</sup> Broughton
Gwen Quayle	1 <sup>st</sup> Broughton
Jenson Thomas	West Lancs County
Iain Simpson	District Youth Commissioner / 4 <sup>th</sup> Fulwood
Phil Acklam	Explorers
Harry McGaghey	DESCOM
Mark Woodhouse	Central Ribbleton
Veronica Woodhouse	Central Ribbleton
Susan Jepson	ADC
Andrew Clare	2 <sup>nd</sup> Ashton
Kevin Stickley	Central Ribbleton
Lesley-Ann Stickley	Central Ribbleton
Caroline Colley	ADC Beaver Scouts / 1 <sup>st</sup> Cottam
Joanna Taylor	5 <sup>th</sup> Preston
Reyhana Asmal	10 <sup>th</sup> Fulwood
Fatima Bux Ismail	10 <sup>th</sup> Fulwood
Seena Bux	10 <sup>th</sup> Fulwood
Talha Patel	10 <sup>th</sup> Fulwood