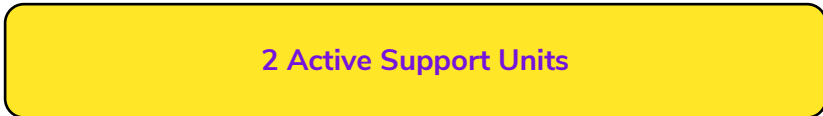
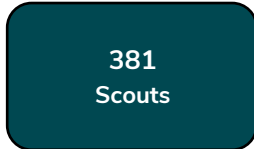
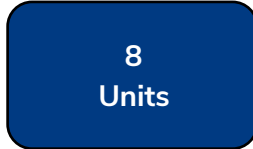
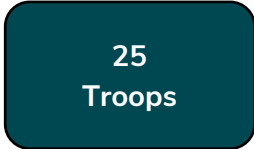
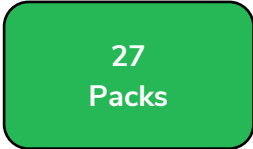
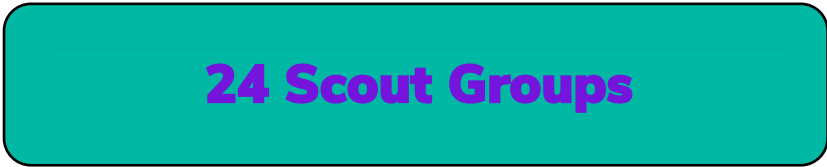


  
**Scouts**  
Lonsdale

# Annual Report 2021

*The figures recorded here relate to the Census taken in January 2021; the changes from the Census of January 2020 are shown in red below the corresponding block.*





## President and Chair's Foreword

*"My son is a Cub Scout at ..... so we've been so grateful to all the volunteers who have kept things running so well throughout these very difficult times."* This extract from an e-mail perhaps sums-up 2020. Little did we know when we started the year there would be so many challenges to face following the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic.

At first the contact with our young people was virtually, in many instances made possible by the generous sponsorship by Zoom Video Communications (negotiated nationally by The Scout Association). Many Groups were creative in devising programme ideas (aided by resources produced Nationally and by West Lancashire Scout County). The Scout Association followed the guidance developed by the National Youth Agency, as the co-ordinator for the Sector, on behalf of Her Majesty's Government. When it was adjudged safe to do so, we were able to offer face-to-face activities. There was no compulsion for our adult leaders to provide any activities but the extract at the top of this page certainly shows that parents are appreciative of what we did. Such activities did not go unnoticed - even attracting the attention of one of our local MPs, Cat Smith.

Throughout this report, there is further mention of how we adapted to this new situation we found ourselves in.

We acknowledge and thank those leaders (and others) that went the extra mile in supporting our young people during the year. Much more thought and preparation has been needed to provide both virtual and face-to-face meetings.

Mandy - our District Commissioner - and her team have experienced additional demands on their time in supporting our leaders during this year of uncertainties. We've even managed to organise a virtual St George's Day celebration: who would have imagined that would have been needed at the beginning of 2020?

Our appreciation and grateful thanks to all who have supported Scouting in Lonsdale District during 2020.

Kath Bromilow MBE  
District President

Tony Andrews  
District Chair



## District Commissioner's Report

From a deadly pandemic to a global movement for racial justice, the year 2020 certainly experienced its fair share of world-shifting events. For us in Lonsdale, 2020 started off on a high with a wonderful awards ceremony at Leighton Hall, celebrating the achievements of our adult volunteers within the District.

The annual Scout Census at the end of January 2020 saw amazing growth across all Sections allowing us to bring Scouting to even more young people - the lull before the storm! For comparison we have included in this report the figures for January 2021 - to show the effects of the pandemic on our numbers.

We held two successful open nights at 1st Carnforth Scout Group heralding the opening of three new Sections.

A successful selection evening in February helped us choose the team that would lead the Lonsdale contingent to the Swedish International Jamboree in 2021. A wonderful opportunity for our young people to experience different cultures which sadly was not to happen.

In March the coronavirus pandemic, and the need for social distancing, sadly brought about a temporary end of 'face-to-face' Scouting. All Groups were required to close their meeting venues and Groups and Sections were no longer allowed to meet. The resulting challenge was enormous, but was accepted, and within weeks many of our sections moved to meeting online. Scouting did not stop. We had to change the way we ran meetings and programmes had to be rewritten in a way that the Leaders had not done before. New technology skills were very quickly acquired and we spent the next few months sat in front of a screen. An age of new Scouting was taking place - scavenger hunts, cooking,



games, coding, map skills, badge work and lots of quizzes. Camping at home became a popular activity with tents being erected in gardens and dens in living rooms.

We have been unable to have any residential experiences on our Activity Centres since March but we have great plans for when we are allowed to reopen. The sites have been maintained in excellent condition by the Site Wardens and they are anticipating lots of 'Nights Away' taking place once this is possible.

Group and District Executive Committee meetings quickly found their way into a virtual world. Indeed, some committees discovering that they were working more effectively online. Group AGMs were also held online using 'Zoom' as was a very successful District AGM. Leader training also had to move online and the opportunity was taken by many to update their mandatory learning.

This year saw Mrs Suzie Reynolds DL retire as District President and we thank her for all her hard work as a fantastic supporter and promoter of Lonsdale Scouts. Mrs. Kath Bromilow MBE has taken over the reins as President and we welcome her to Scouting and can't wait for her to experience our unique brand of adventure and fun.

Later in the year, with the relaxing of Covid-19 rules, we were again allowed to meet, but in outside situations only. We appointed a Covid Risk Assessment Group to check and approve the Group Risk Assessments and many started to meet again, socially distanced of course.

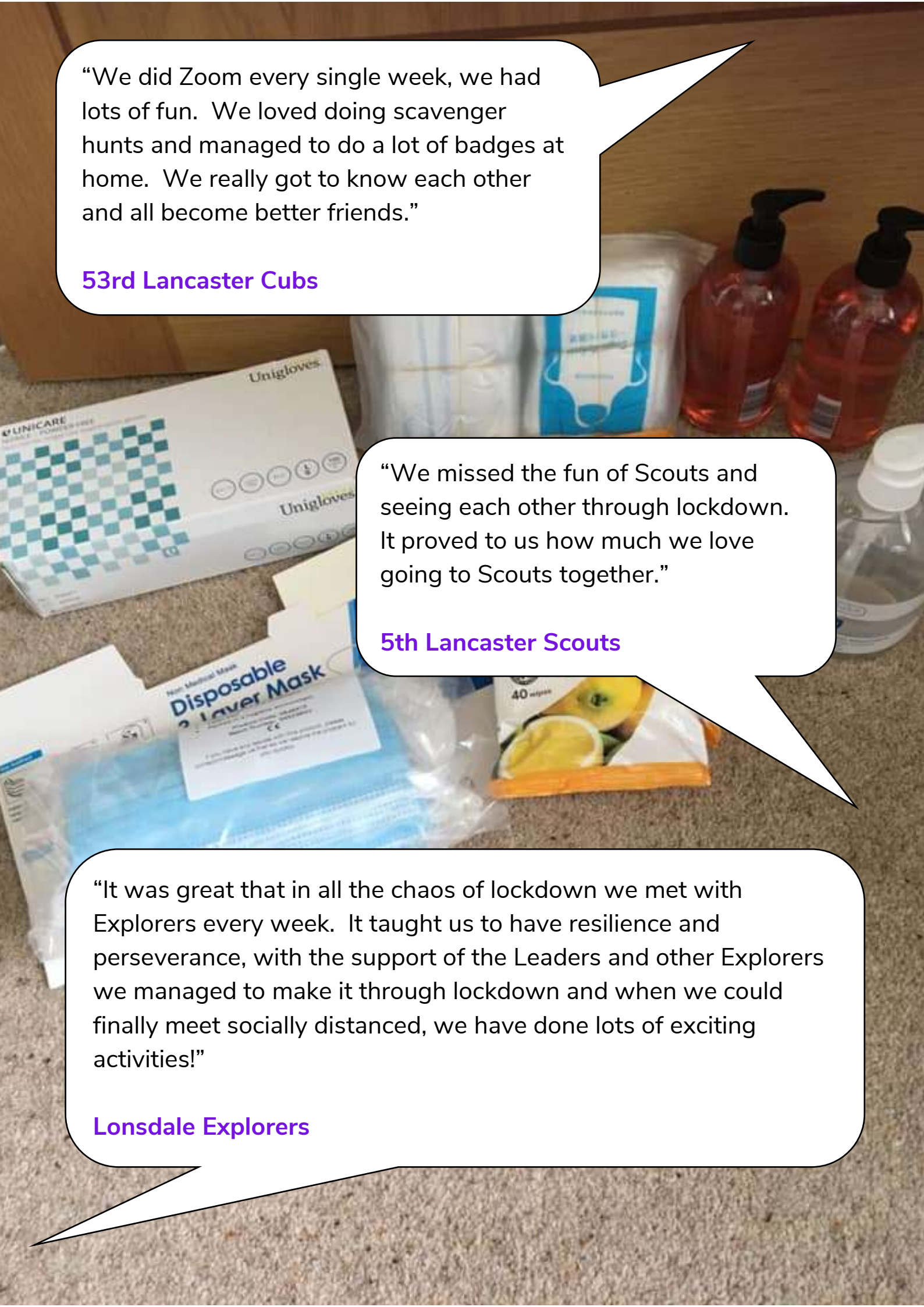
With each lockdown and readiness level change the leaders and young people have shown resilience and true Scouting spirit. With very little indoor Scouting having taken place in 2020 we are very much looking forward to re-building Scouting within Lonsdale District. I am very proud to lead Lonsdale District because I know that I have a powerful army of leaders and supporters that are a force for good. We can and will come back bigger and better.

Mandy Sweet

District Commissioner







“We did Zoom every single week, we had lots of fun. We loved doing scavenger hunts and managed to do a lot of badges at home. We really got to know each other and all become better friends.”

**53rd Lancaster Cubs**

“We missed the fun of Scouts and seeing each other through lockdown. It proved to us how much we love going to Scouts together.”

**5th Lancaster Scouts**

“It was great that in all the chaos of lockdown we met with Explorers every week. It taught us to have resilience and perseverance, with the support of the Leaders and other Explorers we managed to make it through lockdown and when we could finally meet socially distanced, we have done lots of exciting activities!”

**Lonsdale Explorers**

## Awards 2020

The Chief Scout made these Good Service Awards to adult members of Lonsdale District during 2020:

### Bar to the Silver Acorn

*'in recognition of further specially distinguished service'*

Howard Greenwood

Warton (St Oswald's)

### Bar to the Award for Merit

*'in recognition of further outstanding service'*

Jill Sloan

Lonsdale Active Support Unit

### Award for Merit

*'in recognition of outstanding service'*

Christopher Bainbridge

Discovery Explorer Scout Unit

Debbie Mather

Warton (St Oswald's)

Jennifer Moore

16<sup>th</sup> Morecambe and Heysham (Church of the Ascension)

Louise Tuck

23<sup>rd</sup> Lancaster (Christ Church)

### Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Service

*'in recognition of good service'*

Paul Burrows

16<sup>th</sup> Lancaster (St Paul's)

Harriet Butterfield

Warton (St Oswald's)

Jim Cooper

2<sup>nd</sup> Bolton-le-Sands

Roger Crewdson

16<sup>th</sup> Morecambe and Heysham (Church of the Ascension)

Heather Dixon

Centurion with Westgate

Shelley Harvey

2<sup>nd</sup> Bolton-le-Sands

Simon Hester

13<sup>th</sup> Lancaster

Sonja Lockton

1<sup>st</sup> Slyne-with-Hest

Adrian Nutter

Warton (St Oswald's)

Ali Phillips

Saints Explorer Scout Unit

Deborah White

16<sup>th</sup> Morecambe and Heysham (Church of the Ascension)

Tansy Wickham-Pusey

13<sup>th</sup> Lancaster



## Operating the Charity During the Pandemic

Lonsdale District Scout Council is a registered charity and members of the District Executive Committee are the Charity's Trustees. The Committee exists to support the District Commissioner in meeting the responsibilities of her appointment. It is the Council's 'executive body' and is thus answerable to the Council for its actions. The Committee is required to report to each Annual General Meeting of the District Scout Council. This year we have chosen to report how the Charity has adapted to operate during the year and to highlight some of the matters dealt with.

Like many charities there was a pause in our (formal) activity at the start of the first lockdown (in March 2020) as we adapted to a new environment. One of our first concerns was the security of property: our Activity Centres together with District Headquarters. In the early weeks we were able to use 'walk-by' for external checks. In part we had to ensure that we satisfied the conditions of our insurances.

Soon meetings continued - using Zoom. Looking back on the year, we held most of the scheduled meetings. Many were well attended - probably the benefit of not having to leave home [to travel to the City Centre].

Thus, we were able to complete our annual and routine business; some significant other business included:

- **Risk Assessments for the Return to Face-to-Face Activities.** As part of the process introduced by The Scout Association, the Executive Committee had to provide a mechanism for the approval of Covid-related risk assessments. A small Risk Assessment Group was formed - with two authorised approvers plus others to provide guidance. In the period up to 31 December 2020 166 risk assessments were approved (for approximately 70% of our Scout Groups and all Explorer Scout Units). Nearly 60% of the Group Sections planned to run face-to-face activities - the majority outdoors, with some indoors when we were permitted to do so. We acknowledge the leadership of Howard Greenwood in taking forward this significant, additional task.
- **Legal 1.** During the year we agreed to the renewal of the lease (for a further six years) of the property which we use as our District Headquarters - with no rent increase. Considering the circumstances, no problems or delays were encountered in concluding this matter.







- **Legal 2.** After a protracted period of some years - mainly not of our doing - the renewal of the lease of a parcel of land at SilverHelme Activity Centre, for the Emergency Services Communications Mast, was concluded. This was a complex process (mainly as required by Charity Law) necessitating the engagement of several consultants. As part of the process the Trustees were required by The Scout Association Trust Corporation to sign a Deed of Liability (essentially absolving the Corporation of any liability to them that might arise in any use of the Activity Centre).

During the year Derek Holt sadly passed away. He had held various Scouting roles, latterly as President of 34<sup>th</sup> Lancaster (St Chad's) Scout Group. Additionally, he had shared his expertise as a member of the District Executive (for several years).

To assist the Executive Committee in fulfilling its responsibilities, a number of sub-Committees have been established with delegated responsibilities. Let's review their remit and work during the year.

**Activity Centres Management Board:** This committee is responsible, on behalf of the Trustees, for the management and operation of the District's two Activity Centres, Littledale and SilverHelme. The committee has continued to meet using Zoom, although the Activity Centres have remained closed in line with Government Guidelines. Where guidelines have permitted, the two Wardens and a small group of volunteers have worked hard to keep the sites and buildings well maintained, including grass cutting, woodland and estates maintenance. All buildings have been deep cleaned and, in some cases up-graded, in preparation for re-opening. Finally, a new on-line booking system has been developed and installed, this includes an improved user interface and back-office processes, resulting in a much-improved booking experience for all. As a result of lockdown it has become clear that Scouts of all ages want to be outdoors. As a result, the Activity Centres have been the focus for many Scout outdoor activities, these have included, a wide range of games and team building exercises, campfires and outdoor cooking, den building and as a base for hiking in the local 'Areas of Outstanding Beauty'.

**Appointments Advisory Committee:** This committee supports the District Commissioner, who has overall responsibility for the appointment of adult volunteers. It assists with the process of appointing and welcoming volunteers by advising on their suitability (having met with them to explore a number of prescribed, key topics). The period of lockdown proved beneficial in enabling the committee to make significant progress in clearing the existing backlog of applicants. The use of Zoom was a boon.

In particular, some interviewees had been on the list for many months, unable to attend a conventional meeting due to various constraints. The electronic 'Meeting Rooms' enabled two panels to run simultaneously. We applaud the support of the panel members in adapting so positively to this new (electronic) method of working. We acknowledge with thanks the support of Mike Nelson, a long-standing member of the Committee, who has recently moved away from the District.

**Awards Advisory Committee:** This committee provides support and guidance to the District Commissioner when considering awards (particularly those for gallantry, meritorious conduct or good service). Joining the District Commissioner are members who have significant experience - in various roles - and who are well-versed in the level of commitment required for any award. The Local Training Manager also joins meetings of the committee as many of those who are initially considered for an award may not meet the mandatory training requirements relevant to that award. We were able to sustain our work using Zoom. For many of those considered it will perhaps be many months before we know the results of our deliberations. During 2020 18 of our adult volunteers received awards, as detailed elsewhere in this report. As an estimate, collectively they have committed more than 290 years of service in supporting our young people in Lonsdale District (and elsewhere).

**Finance sub-Committee:** This committee supports Scouting in the District by ensuring we have the funds to fulfil the District goals and that we effectively manage the money we have. The financial picture over the past 12 months has been affected by the pandemic. We have successfully claimed considerable support from the Government which has helped strengthen our finances. But we know we have to make our money work hard for the District. We have a bequest within the District the annual interest from which is used to provide grants to Groups. We were concerned this was earning meagre rates of interest and have started a process of moving it into higher paying equity investments. Eventually, this could treble the money available for distribution. We have an obligation to make sure that our own funds are competently accounted for and judge that we achieve this. We also try to support other units in the District improve their own financial reporting and funds.

**14-25 Finance and Support Group:** This sub-Committee was established to fulfil the District Executive's key responsibilities in providing support both to the Explorer Scout Section and the Scout Network. This responsibility and support is akin to the responsibility Scout Group Executives have in relation to their Beaver Scout, Cub Scout and Scout Sections. For some time it had been felt that there was a need to review the structure and terms of reference of the Group. This work was initiated during the year and has continued into 2021.





**LONSDALE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL**

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	Unrestricted Funds 31/12/2020 District	Unrestricted Funds 31/12/2020 Campsites	Restricted Funds 31/12/2020	Designated Funds 31/12/2020	Endowment Funds 31/12/2020	Total Funds 31/12/2020	Total Funds 31/12/2019
<b>Receipts</b>							
Membership Subscriptions	55,800	-	734	-	-	56,534	53,201
Less Paid	(42,601)	-	-	-	-	(42,601)	(40,413)
	13,199	-	734	-	-	13,933	12,788
Donations and Grants	10,000	22,681	-	-	-	32,681	7,802
Lettings and Associated Income	1,180	22,710	-	-	-	23,890	53,344
Other Income	-	22	-	-	-	22	704
Youth Programme and Activities	7,785	-	-	-	-	7,785	23,227
Training	103	-	-	-	-	103	19
Badge Sales	1,651	-	-	-	-	1,651	7,108
Investment Income	345	201	37	-	1,413	1,996	2,241
Explorers	-	-	11,749	-	-	11,749	10,174
Jamboree	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,629
Zellhof	-	-	-	-	-	-	22,009
Clothing and Equipment Sales	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
SASU	-	-	165	-	-	165	141
Miscellaneous	20	-	-	-	-	20	224
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>34,283</b>	<b>45,614</b>	<b>12,685</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,413</b>	<b>93,995</b>	<b>145,418</b>
<b>Asset and Investment Sales, etc.</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>34,283</b>	<b>45,614</b>	<b>12,685</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,413</b>	<b>93,995</b>	<b>145,418</b>
<b>Payments</b>							
Youth Programme and Activities	6,026	-	-	-	-	6,026	21,935
Rent	6,615	-	-	-	-	6,615	6,615
Heat, Light and Water	968	4,098	-	-	-	5,066	7,688
Repairs and Maintenance	633	14,935	-	-	-	15,568	24,268
Capital Expenditure	-	10,262	-	-	-	10,262	15,354
Insurance	643	2,698	-	-	-	3,341	3,138
Printing, Postage and Telephone	176	1,825	-	-	-	2,001	1,764
Governance and Trustee Expenses	744	-	-	-	-	744	1,252
Campsite Shops	-	-	-	-	-	-	344
Bank Charges	60	60	-	-	-	120	120
Professional Fees	-	600	-	-	-	600	540
Grants to Groups	-	-	-	-	267	267	976
Grants to Individuals	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,900
Badge Costs	1,341	-	-	-	-	1,341	6,604
Training	447	-	-	-	-	447	1,358
Team Expenses	387	-	-	-	-	387	1,726
Explorers	-	-	11,281	-	-	11,281	10,183
Miscellaneous	398	-	-	-	-	398	227
Awards	244	-	-	-	-	244	341
Donations	50	-	-	-	-	50	60
Jamboree	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,450
Zellhof	-	-	-	-	-	-	32,237
Clothing Purchases	-	-	-	-	-	-	74
SASU	-	-	210	-	-	210	-
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>18,732</b>	<b>34,478</b>	<b>11,491</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>64,968</b>	<b>143,154</b>
<b>Asset and Investment Purchases, etc</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>18,732</b>	<b>34,478</b>	<b>11,491</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>64,968</b>	<b>143,154</b>
<b>Net of Receipts/(Payments)</b>	<b>15,551</b>	<b>11,136</b>	<b>1,194</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,146</b>	<b>29,027</b>	<b>2,264</b>
<b>Transfer to Hardship Fund</b>	<b>(5,000)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
	<b>10,551</b>	<b>11,136</b>	<b>1,194</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>1,146</b>	<b>29,027</b>	<b>2,264</b>

# LONSDALE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

## STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Unrestricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	31/12/2020	31/12/2020	31/12/2020	31/12/2020	31/12/2020	31/12/2020	31/12/2019
	District	Campsites					
<b>Cash</b>							
Current Accounts	17,926	11,769	3,787	5,000	1,146	39,628	26,550
Deposit Accounts	32,478	25,000	3,782	-	54,657	83,439	127,439
Term Deposit	27,707	20,000	2,293	-	50,000	100,000	40,000
Cash	28	103	-	-	-	131	182
<b>Total Cash Funds</b>	<b>45,661</b>	<b>56,872</b>	<b>9,862</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>105,803</b>	<b>223,198</b>	<b>194,171</b>
<b>Other Monetary Assets</b>							
Small Loans Outstanding	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Amounts Owing to District	-	-	-	-	-	-	410
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>410</b>
<b>Investment Assets</b>							
Lancaster Scout and Guide Shop	9,211	-	-	-	-	9,211	8,610
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>9,211</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,211</b>	<b>8,610</b>
<b>Assets Retained for the Charity's Own Use</b>							
Badge Stock	4,333	-	-	-	-	4,333	4,417
Campsite Shop Stock	-	566	-	-	-	566	693
Campsite Land and Buildings	-	765,000	-	-	-	765,000	765,000
Campsite Fixtures and Fittings	-	35,500	-	-	-	35,500	35,500
Campsite Mowers	-	12,720	-	-	-	12,720	12,720
District Fixtures and Fittings	6,400	-	-	-	-	6,400	6,400
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>10,733</b>	<b>813,786</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>824,519</b>	<b>824,730</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>							
Accounts not yet Paid	-	-	-	-	-	-	(83)
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(83)</b>
<b>Total Assets less Liabilities</b>	<b>65,605</b>	<b>870,658</b>	<b>9,862</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>105,803</b>	<b>1,056,928</b>	<b>1,027,838</b>

The financial information in this report has been taken from the independently examined financial statements for the period 1 January - 31 December 2020, which were approved by the Trustees at their meeting on 25 March 2021. The full financial statements contain an unqualified report from the Independent Examiner and have been submitted to the Charity Commission. This summary may not contain sufficient information to allow a full understanding of the financial affairs of Lonsdale District.

The full report is available for download from the District website. If there are any questions regarding the financial information please contact the District Finance Officer, Stephen Clarke.



# Your Activity Centres Need You!



Set in idyllic locations, either Littleedale or SilverHelme (both within our District) are idea locations for your young people to gain basic camping skills and much more. Recent improvements include:

- New toilet and shower block at SilverHelme
- Refurbishment of main toilet block at Littleedale
- Replacement water treatment system at Littleedale
- Internal redecoration of Mortimer Lodge (plus new mattresses) at SilverHelme
- WiFi access in both Mortimer and Long Panther Lodges.

Information and bookings: [www.lonsdalescouts.org.uk/activity-centres/](http://www.lonsdalescouts.org.uk/activity-centres/)