



**Scouts**  
Lonsdale

# Annual Report 2022

**BEAVERS**

*The figures recorded here relate to the Census taken in January 2022 and have been compared, below, with those for the two preceding years.*



Change from 2021

**+22.1%**

**-1.5%**

## 24 Scout Groups

- 2 Dreys
- 26 Colonies
- 27 Packs
- 25 Troops
- 9 Units

	2020	2021	2022
<b>2020</b>	421 Beaver Scouts <b>-38.2%</b>	471 Cub Scouts <b>-22.5%</b>	414 Scouts <b>-7.7%</b>
<b>2021</b>	163 Explorer Scouts <b>-3.7%</b>	85 Scout Network <b>-68.2%</b>	260 Beaver Scouts <b>+54.2%</b>
<b>2022</b>	365 Cub Scouts <b>+26.0%</b>	382 Scouts <b>-3.4%</b>	157 Explorer Scouts <b>+3.8%</b>
<b>2022</b>	51 Scout Network	28 Squirrel Scouts	401 Beaver Scouts
	460 Cub Scouts	369 Scouts	163 Explorer Scouts

## President and Chair's Foreword

As we prepare this foreword the annual National Volunteers' Week has just concluded and was our prompt as we reflected on the past year. So much has happened - not-the-least that 'wretched virus', which placed so many additional strains on every aspect of our support of young people (throughout the area of Lonsdale District). Later in this report Mandy - our District Commissioner - reflects on some of our achievements, despite adversity.

We acknowledge and thank those leaders (and others) - in our Groups and Units - who 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. For many, volunteering is not confined solely to Scouting. Many have assisted in the community - either as volunteers or allied to their professional roles. Some have received recognition but many are unsung heroes.

As explained later in this report, we are now associated with Lancaster Business Improvement District (BID). We were so delighted that Jim and Trish Holland were recognised as Lancaster Superheroes (one of the many categories in the Love Lancaster Business Awards organised by Lancaster BID). The award recognises Jim and Trish's many years supporting the Lancaster Scout and Guide Shop. They have striven to support our young people and leaders in whatever way they can. They always go that extra mile! This is not just opening the Shop but many have benefited from their 'order and collect' or 'order and deliver' services provided especially during the extensive period of lockdown.

Mandy and her team have experienced additional demands on their time in supporting our leaders. Everything that has been achieved is much appreciated.

Our appreciation and grateful thanks to all who have supported Scouting in Lonsdale District during 2021.

Kath Bromilow MBE  
District President

Tony Andrews  
District Chair



## District Commissioner's Report

I ended last year's report with the hopeful expectation that it would not be too long before we were back to 'normal'. Little did we know that Coronavirus was in no rush to leave and would be around a lot longer than we hoped. We started 2021 with the optimistic goal of getting everybody back together and making sure that Lonsdale District recovered quickly from the effects of 2020. Covid risk assessments were needed and the Covid Risk Assessment Group, that we had formed, was kept very busy.

We encouraged Groups to meet safely face-to-face whenever they could and started a push for recruitment of volunteers and young people. Most Groups and Sections returned to meeting together, albeit in outside situations. We held a St. George's Day celebration online that was well received. Soon, restrictions were eased; we were able to camp again and do all the activities that we had been missing for so long. Many Groups took up the opportunity and Nights Away notifications started to arrive. Lots of members, both from Lonsdale and other Districts, returned to our magnificent activity centres that had been kept in excellent condition by the site wardens and their helpers. The AGM took place for a second time on Zoom, not an ideal platform for a celebration of Scouting, but it was well attended and thanks were given to all who helped plan the event.

In the autumn term we planned and ran an Awards Reception. This was an opportunity for us to mark the achievements of those members of Lonsdale District Scouts awarded a Good Service Award in the year. This took place in the beautiful grounds of Leighton Hall with the kind permission of our Vice President, Mrs Suzie Reynolds. We enjoyed a lovely afternoon tea and, eventually, sunshine. We presented 35 top awards to some of the amazing volunteers in our District.

Our first District event took place when we welcomed over 100 Beaver Scouts for a hike around Silverdale followed by a much-appreciated sausage sizzle. Over 40 Explorer Scouts, from all over the District, came together to work on site, at the Activity Centre, for the weekend. The flagpole was refurbished; 'vertical' weeding was carried out on the cliff face climbing wall; and dry-stone walling undertaken - with skills acquired for future use. Thirteen members from Lonsdale District went to Croatia in October on a County sailing trip. This was the only overseas trip organised by Scouting in the UK during 2021; the participants had lots of fun sailing around the islands and learning valuable sailing skills.

The Scouting spirit shown in 2020 did not wane in 2021, with every change in guidance and readiness level the members of Lonsdale District 'rolled up their sleeves' and proved that Scouting is a force for good and nothing can stop us. Scouting is needed more than ever in our communities. I know that with the amazing members that we have we will become bigger and better and that we will be able to provide ever more young people with skills for life.



Mandy Sweet  
District Commissioner

## Awards 2021

The Chief Scout made these Awards to adult members of Lonsdale District during 2021:

### Bar to the Silver Acorn

*'in recognition of further specially distinguished service'*

Terry Bond	1 <sup>st</sup> Silverdale
Jim Holland	Lonsdale District
Paul Sargent	53 <sup>rd</sup> Lancaster

### Silver Acorn

*'in recognition of specially distinguished service'*

Steve Mather	Warton (St Oswald's) and Lonsdale District
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### Bar to the Award for Merit

*'in recognition of further outstanding service'*

Robert Gill	16 <sup>th</sup> Morecambe and Heysham (Church of the Ascension)
Mandy Sweet	Lonsdale District
Steve Sweet	Lonsdale District

### Award for Merit

*'in recognition of outstanding service'*

Louise Ash	35 <sup>th</sup> Lancaster (St Joseph's)
Billie Davis	5 <sup>th</sup> Lancaster (Cathedral and St Bernadette's) and 13 <sup>th</sup> Lancaster
Janet Sargent	53 <sup>rd</sup> Lancaster
Bridget Worsnop	1 <sup>st</sup> Overton (St Helen's)
Mark Worsnop	1 <sup>st</sup> Overton (St Helen's)

### Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Service

*'in recognition of good service'*

David Bateman	Lonsdale District
Victoria Chatburn	33 <sup>rd</sup> Lancaster Sea Scouts
Ian Cruickshank	Caton Church
Nigel Davis	16 <sup>th</sup> Lancaster (St Paul's)
Sam Hester	13 <sup>th</sup> Lancaster
Duncan Johnson	2 <sup>nd</sup> Bolton-le-Sands
Sarah Milne	34 <sup>th</sup> Lancaster (St Chad's)
James Phillips	Galgate
Stella Pye	33 <sup>rd</sup> Lancaster Sea Scouts
Claire Rose	Westgate
Stephen Rose	Westgate
Julie Harper	23 <sup>rd</sup> Lancaster (Christ Church)
Hazel Sharples	33 <sup>rd</sup> Lancaster Sea Scouts
Jack Sharples	Lonsdale District
Adrian Steele	Warton (St Oswald's)
Pip Tatham	Warton (St Oswald's)
Georgina White	3 <sup>rd</sup> Morecambe and Heysham (St John's)
Nicola Warburton	2 <sup>nd</sup> Bolton-le-Sands
Simon Wright	Warton (St Oswald's)

### Chief Scout's Commendation for Meritorious Conduct

*'in recognition of the dedication to the Scouts despite the difficulties they have endured'*

Graeme Bradshaw	13 <sup>th</sup> Lancaster
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## Croatia - A Trip Worth Waiting For!

For a sailing trip, the weather was too good; we had blue skies, sun, and crystal-clear waters ... but no wind. However, the experience of being in such a different environment to the UK, both in terms of culture and landscape, more than made up for it! The first day we set off on our voyage, there was some confusion about which way to turn the steering wheel ... leading at least one boat to do doughnuts. It was only once we left dry land and Dubrovnik disappeared into a speck on the horizon, that it sank in; we were finally doing it, nearly three years in the making!

I must admit some of the most enjoyable parts of the trip involved the food. While our on-ship cooking had its ups and downs (...cinnamon curry...), the meals we had at the marinas were all incredible. I remember people saying that they were feeling tired, so wanted some simple food that they knew and were comfortable with. Just picture their faces when they ordered 'scampi', expecting chip shop fried tails but were instead faced with the full animal looking back at them. Still tasted great though.

Another great thing about Croatia is its clear water. Once anchored, we took every opportunity to launch ourselves overboard and experience it first-hand. We took some snorkel gear and were able to see the small shoals of fish swirling in and out of the shade under the boats. After a slight navigation mishap, we grazed the bottom. This meant we needed to swim around the boat once we were at port to ensure there was no damage. The rocky bay was quite different to the sandy coves we had anchored in previously. There wasn't as many fish but the whole floor was covered with black, spikey urchins.

We had a few trips off the water including a bike ride on one of the islands. The bikes were complete rust buckets, but the ride was great. Once we reached the top of the island we stopped at a lake and the energetic few went for a swim while the rest opted to sunbathe, enjoying the views.

On the final day, we came into port for the last time. After leaving the boats, we went to Dubrovnik's Old Town and toured the walls to see the beautiful terracotta roofs as well as the views over the water, towards the islands we had explored on this wonderful week. After that, we went round at street level to enjoy the more touristy bits. There were souvenir shops galore and I found a memorial to those who had died in defence of the city during their war of independence in 1995. It felt hard to imagine such a beautiful, peaceful, country at war within recent living memory.

The trip was a great experience for all. I have to say thank you to the leadership team for persevering through such a complex and ever-changing situation. They all worked hard to enable us to share their love for sailing as well as to explore the coasts of Croatia.

Stuart Taylor  
Croatia 2020 Participant





## District Executive Committee

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 annually to the District Scout Council's Annual General Meeting. This year we report briefly on the work of the Executive Committee, together with its sub-Committees.

During the year we maintained a schedule of meetings not unlike the number prior to the pandemic. A 'balanced' approach has been taken: some meetings have been held on-line, with others face-to-face (very much depending upon circumstances at the time of a meeting).

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.** Last year we reported that 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. During the period of the approval process' operation, 364 risk assessments were approved. Some were linked with just one activity whilst others were more generic. At an early stage we decided that those approved would be made available on the District website (in the protected area). It is not possible to know how many volunteers did so but there is evidence that the information was accessed (and used). Our thanks are due to those involved in the guidance/approval process (on behalf of the District Executive) - particularly Howard Greenwood who both led the team and approved many of the submitted risk assessments.
- **Lancaster Business Improvement District (BID):** Now that the rateable value of District Headquarters is in excess of £10,000 we have, by law, to contribute to the BID Levy. This has opened-up access to a network of contacts within the business community but also provides an opportunity to publicise Scouting during organised events plus other avenues yet to be fully explored.
- **Application to Register Mines and Minerals Including Whole Powers of Working for the Land Occupied by SilverHelme Activity Centre:** Essentially, when the freehold ownership of the area now covered by SilverHelme Activity Centre was created then at that time the ownership of the mines and minerals under the property was retained by the then owner of the Manor of



Silverdale. The heirs and successors to the Manor of Silverdale, in their claim to the Land Registry, sought to reclaim these rights (which had not been recorded in subsequent land transfers). We appealed against the claim, with no success; there was a short timescale to prepare a submission (and expert legal assistance - at significant cost - would have been needed to produce a more comprehensive claim). Notwithstanding our lack of success, we feel certain that if any planning application was made to extract minerals [from under our site] we would have a strong argument against any proposals.



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:** The Activity Centres Management Board (ACMB), a sub-Committee of the Lonsdale District Executive, is responsible - to the Trustees - for the management of the District's two Activity Centres, located at Littledale and SilverHelme. The day-to-day operation at each Activity Centre is carried out by a volunteer Warden, Kieron Ryan at SilverHelme and Mike Woods at Littledale. They are supported by an Operating Committee and a range of volunteer staff and supporters, whose individual contributions are essential to the smooth operation of each Activity Centre. Since the ending of all Covid restrictions the Activity Centre usage by Scout Groups and Explorer Units has seen a steady increase, however, it has yet to return to normal levels. To help promote the Activity Centres a Marketing Manager, Michael Siney, has been appointed and a Marketing Plan put in place. A new Activity Centre Strategy and Long-Term Plan has been approved by the District Executive. The aim of these documents, along with the Marketing Plan and customer feedback surveys, is to help guide the long-term operation and development of the Activity Centres, ensuring their future financial viability. Notable developments during the year include the refurbishment of the toilet block and replacement of the drinking water treatment system at Littledale; internal repairs and redecoration of Mortimer Lodge; and refurbishment of the climbing area and boundary fencing at Silverhelme. Very recently, Kieron Ryan has indicated his intention to retire during 2022; if you are interested in this volunteer role please contact the ACMB Chairman, Steve Mather.



**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). We have continued with the use of Zoom to conduct meetings of the Committee. We applaud the support of the panel members in using this electronic method of working (which has proven to be more efficient in the prompt processing of applications).

**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 may not meet the mandatory training requirements relevant to the award they are being considered for. For many of those considered [for an award] it will perhaps be many months before they know the results of our deliberations. During 2021 32 of our adult volunteers received awards, as detailed elsewhere in this report (having collectively committed several centuries of service in supporting the young people in Lonsdale District and elsewhere).

**Finance sub-Committee:** We were worried that 2021 could be a challenging year for the finances of the District. The concern was that the continuing effects of COVID would reduce our income and yet we needed to support the Groups within the District. In practise, the outturn was better than our cautious modelling, primarily for two reasons. Although diminished, the Government continued to provide financial support. Secondly, the number of young people within the District, which is the principal source of income, did not reduce as much as our worst case scenario modelling. Our job is to make sure we have enough money to support the running costs of the District as well as helping to develop our Groups and encourage District-wide events. During 2021 we wanted to make sure that we did not impose additional costs on our groups by increasing our membership fees. We are also part way through a programme to increase the income available for distribution in the long term from the Sharpe Bequest by investing this money in shares. We try hard to keep the costs of running the District down so we can devote as much money as possible to scouting initiatives. The outturn was that our income more than covered our expenditure and we made a surplus. It's important that our finances are resilient. For 2022 we will have the twin challenges of both wanting to do more within the District but at the same time having to cope with high inflation. Our prudent financial management leaves us with sufficient reserves to weather most storms. 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 Squirrel Scout, Beaver Scout, Cub Scout and Scout Sections. During the year there was an extensive review of the functions (and composition) of the sub-Committee. We have now started meetings, with a redefined role and purpose; to date this has resulted in much more meaningful meetings (and thus better support for Explorer Scouts and the Scout Network).



LONSDALE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Unrestricted Funds 31/12/2021 District	Unrestricted Funds 31/12/2021 Campsites	Restricted Funds 31/12/2021	Designated Funds 31/12/2021	Endowment Funds 31/12/2021	Total Funds 31/12/2021	Total Funds 31/12/2020
<b>Receipts</b>							
Membership Subscriptions	52,962	-	582	-	-	53,544	56,534
Less Paid	(42,486)	-	-	-	-	(42,486)	(42,601)
	10,476	-	582	-	-	11,058	13,933
Donations and Grants	10,239	37,474	1,250	-	-	48,963	32,681
Lettings and Associated Income	-	13,289	-	-	-	13,289	23,890
Other Income	-	70	-	-	-	70	22
Youth Programme and Activities	202	74	-	-	-	276	7,785
Training	36	-	-	-	-	36	103
Badge Sales	3,896	-	-	-	-	3,896	1,651
Investment Income	326	259	30	-	1,017	1,632	1,996
Explorers	-	-	2,955	-	-	2,955	11,749
SASU	-	-	-	-	-	-	165
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>25,175</b>	<b>51,166</b>	<b>4,817</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,017</b>	<b>82,175</b>	<b>93,995</b>
<b>Asset and Investment Sales, etc.</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>25,175</b>	<b>51,166</b>	<b>4,817</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,017</b>	<b>82,175</b>	<b>93,995</b>
<b>Payments</b>							
Youth Programme and Activities	254	-	-	-	-	254	6,026
Rent	6,615	-	-	-	-	6,615	6,615
Heat, Light and Water	1,338	4,067	-	-	-	5,405	5,066
BID Levy	154	-	-	-	-	154	-
Repairs and Maintenance	774	14,555	-	-	-	15,329	15,568
Capital Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,262
Insurance	722	3,060	-	-	-	3,782	3,341
Printing, Postage and Telephone	66	1,811	-	-	-	1,877	2,001
Governance and Trustee Expenses	755	-	-	-	-	755	744
Bank Charges	96	96	-	-	-	192	120
Professional Fees	-	600	-	-	-	600	600
Grants to Groups	-	-	-	-	598	598	267
Grants to Individuals	200	-	-	-	-	200	-
Badge Costs	3,065	-	-	-	-	3,065	1,341
Training	325	-	-	-	-	325	447
Team Expenses	516	-	-	-	-	516	387
Explorers	-	-	1,659	-	-	1,659	11,281
Miscellaneous	173	-	-	-	-	173	398
Awards	1,552	-	-	-	-	1,552	244
Donations	50	-	-	-	-	50	50
SAUS	-	-	-	-	-	-	210
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>16,655</b>	<b>24,189</b>	<b>1,659</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>598</b>	<b>43,101</b>	<b>64,968</b>
<b>Asset and Investment Purchases, etc</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>16,655</b>	<b>24,189</b>	<b>1,659</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>598</b>	<b>43,101</b>	<b>64,968</b>
<b>Net of Receipts/(Payments)</b>	<b>8,520</b>	<b>26,977</b>	<b>3,158</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>419</b>	<b>39,074</b>	<b>29,027</b>
<b>Transfers</b>							
Zellhof Surplus	(901)	-	901	-	-	-	-
Property Development Fund	(20,000)	(30,000)	-	50,000	-	-	-
Reclassification	-	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-	-
	<b>(12,381)</b>	<b>(3,023)</b>	<b>9,059</b>	<b>45,000</b>	<b>419</b>	<b>39,074</b>	<b>29,027</b>

# LONSDALE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

## STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Unrestricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	31/12/2021	31/12/2021	31/12/2021	31/12/2021	31/12/2021	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
	District	Campsites					
<b>Cash</b>							
Current Accounts	3,862	18,686	5,083	-	24,349	51,980	39,628
Deposit Accounts	642	10,000	7,587	30,000	15,209	63,439	83,439
Term Deposit	28,750	25,000	6,250	20,000	-	80,000	100,000
Cash	25	164	-	-	-	188	131
<b>Total Cash Funds</b>	<b>33,279</b>	<b>53,850</b>	<b>18,921</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>39,558</b>	<b>195,608</b>	<b>223,198</b>
<b>Other Monetary Assets</b>							
Small Loans Outstanding	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Amounts Owing to District	174	-	-	-	-	174	-
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Investment Assets</b>							
Fidelity Investment Management (at market value)	-	-	-	-	69,640	69,640	-
Lancaster Scout and Guide Shop	8,031	-	-	-	-	8,031	9,211
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>8,031</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>69,640</b>	<b>77,671</b>	<b>9,211</b>
<b>Assets Retained for the Charity's Own Use</b>							
Badge Stock	3,888	-	-	-	-	3,888	4,334
Campsite Shop Stock	-	466	-	-	-	466	566
Campsite Land and Buildings	-	999,000	-	-	-	999,000	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>10,288</b>	<b>1,047,686</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,057,974</b>	<b>824,519</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>							
Accounts not yet paid	1,255	-	-	-	-	1,255	-
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>1,255</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,255</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total Assets less Liabilities</b>	<b>50,517</b>	<b>1,101,536</b>	<b>18,921</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>109,198</b>	<b>1,330,171</b>	<b>1,056,928</b>

The financial information in this report has been taken from the independently examined financial statements for the period 1 January - 31 December 2021, which were approved by the Trustees at their meeting on 23 May 2022. The full financial statements contain an unqualified report from the Independent Examiner and will be 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 will be available to download from the District website. If there are any questions regarding the financial information please contact the District Finance Officer, Stephen Clarke.