

7th Wellington

11th Kidsgrove

12th Tunstall

Potteries North District Scout Council Annual General Meeting

Thursday, 27th June 2019

at

Smallthorne Community Centre

7.30pm

BEAVERS

cubs



SCOUTS

EXPLORERS

network[®]



Young Leaders

1st Chatterley Whitfield

Potteries North Youth Team

84th Biddulph Moor

67th Burslem

105th Werrington

99th Berryhill

97th Rode Heath

85th Milton

13th Alsager

40th Stockton Brook

51st Smallthorne

59th Newchapel

POTTERIES NORTH DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

To be held on Thursday 27th June 2019

At Smallthorne Community Centre

7.00pm for 7.30pm

AGENDA

1. Welcome
 2. Reflection - Pete Whitehouse
 3. Apologies
 4. Approval of the minutes of the 2018 AGM
 5. Receipt and Consideration of the Annual Report of the District Executive Committee.
 6. Receipt of the Hon. Treasurer's report and Annual Statement of Accounts approved by the Executive Committee.
 7. Approval of the DC's nomination of the District Chairperson: Michele Lawrence
 8. Approval of the DC's nominations of members of the District Executive Committee: Matt Clutton, Amy Ratcliffe. (Shay Norman to be co-opted as a non-voting member).
 9. Election of District Secretary: Judith Hunter (*Liz Mapperson -supporting*)
 10. Election of District Treasurer: Rob Poole
 11. Election of Members of the District Executive Comm.
Nominations Received:
Peter Whitehouse, Mike Smith, Richard Hawthorne, Steve Travers.
 12. Approval of Member to represent the District on the Kibblestone Scout District Exec: Michele Lawrence
 13. Appointment of Independent Examiner: John Hyatt
 14. Approval of the DC's addition of a Vice President.
 15. District Commissioner's Remarks
 16. Any Other Business notified to the District Secretary before 30th May, 2019
 17. Closure of the Formal Business of the Meeting.
-
18. County Commissioner's Remarks
 19. Presentation of Awards:
A full list of District Awards for 2018 / 2019 is appended
 - 20.. Refreshments will be available following the meeting.

Potteries North District Scout Council

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at Smallthorne Community Centre,
on Thursday 14th June 2018 at 7.30pm

Present:

County Commissioner, Mrs Jacqueline Brocklehurst, County Chair, ACC Programme, Mr Sion Hughes, County Youth Commissioner, Mr J Armitage, County Secretary, Helen Wilcox, County Safeguarding Co-ordinator, Mr P Whitehouse, plus 56 members and guests, as listed on the attendance register

Apologies:

Pat Russell - County Chair, Sam Boote - ADC Beavers, Imogen Boote - YC, Dale Harrison, Emma Ball and Sara Walklet. Also 3 members as recorded on the register.

Welcome

The Chair extended a warm welcome to the invited guests and to the members of Potteries North District Scout Council. He asked Mr. Peter Whitehouse to open the proceedings with a short reflection.

Prayer

The Meeting was opened with a prayer led by Peter Whitehouse.

Approval of the Minutes from the 2017 AGM

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Thursday 13th June 2017, were circulated before the meeting.

Mr Peter Whitehouse proposed and Mr Phil Tyler seconded that the minutes be approved and signed as true record. All were in agreement.

Matters Arising

The chairman confirmed there were no matters arising.

Receipt and Consideration of the Annual Report and the Annual Statement of Accounts:

The Chairman presented the Annual Report contained within the AGM document. He noted that despite all of the movement within the management team the District saw our excellent Leaders continue to deliver exciting and rewarding programmes. The Executive Committee had met on a regular basis throughout the year and had provided a great deal of support in the running of the District.

He noted that as we move towards the Vision of 2018, we should all remember that Scouting is a life changing adventure offered by exciting programmes.

With no questions from the Council he handed over to Rob Poole, Treasurer.

The accounts for the year ended 31st March 2018 (which had been approved by the District Executive Committee) were presented by the Treasurer, Mr Rob Poole, copies of the financial report were circulated prior to the meeting.

Mr Poole stated that there was nothing significant to highlight in the accounts. The District's Income and Expenditure is quite small and therefore, it has adopted a low risk strategy. All funds are held in cash in mainstream banks or invested in short term bonds. He reported that the district funds stood at £32,372 and that the Trustees were satisfied that the total financial resources were adequate to support the District.

The Treasurer wished to thank Mr. John Hyatt for his services as auditor.

No questions were asked by the District Council.

The Chair thanked Mr. Poole for his sterling work and added his thanks to Mr. Hyatt.

Approval of the DC's nomination of the District Chairperson:

The DC was seeking the approval of Mr. Jim Hunter as District Chair:
All were in favour.

DC's Nomination for the District Executive for 2017/18

Steve Travers and Matt Clutton. Taken en block and all were in favour.

Election of District Secretary

Judith Hunter was proposed by Stuart Moseley and seconded by Margaret Nash.
All approved.

Chair thanked Judith for her work within the District.

Election of District Treasurer

Mr Rob Poole was proposed by Richard Hawthorne and seconded by Tony Porter.
All approved.

Election of Members of the District Executive

Nominations were received for Mike Smith, Peter Whitehouse, Barry Walker, Richard Hawthorne and Michele Lawrence. Proposed by Gill Balze and seconded by Phil Tyler.
Taken en-bloc and all in favour.

Election of Members to represent the District on Kibblestone Scout Council

Michele Lawrence. Proposed By Jenny Walker and Seconded by Richard Hawthorne.
All agreed.

Appointment of Independent Examiner of Annual Accounts

Mr John Hyatt – all approved.

DC's Remarks

Don Longhurst spoke on behalf of himself and Colin who had taken on the roles of Acting District Commissioners in January of 2018.

He said that both he and Colin were “grass root” Scouters but had taken on the DC role to support the District, which is a big District. He encouraged all Leaders to try to visit another Group, even if only one night per year. It would be eye opening, everyone within the District is working towards the same goal....

#Skills for Life

He thanked everyone for their support and hoped there would soon be a permanent DC.

Any other business

Nothing had been notified to the Secretary

The Chair closed the formal business of the meeting.

Speaker

County Commissioner

Jackie Brocklehurst started by saying that it would be fairly obvious what she would be talking about tonight! Rebranding had been launched on the 15th May, this was not just about the shape of the Fleur de Lis. She went on to tell us what this was to be all about.

Scouting UK has 460,000 members who all want fun and adventure, working towards a stronger community. Gaining #Skillsforlife.

Leaders will become Problem Solvers, Mentors, Programme Givers. They will empower Young People whilst instilling Care, Respect, Integrity and Belief, creating the pillars of Scouting.

Everyone in Potteries North, together will set the tone through People, Programme and Perception.

Presentation of Awards

The County Commissioner presented the Awards:

Silver Acorn (St. George's Day Awards)

Marion Simpson	Training Advisor	Staffordshire
Maureen Ansell	CSL	1 st Kidsgrove

Award for Merit

Jeanette Andrews	ACSL	51 st Smallthorne
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30 Years Service

Graham Wiggins

A full list of District Awards is appended

A Presentation was given by Amy Ratcliffe of her Queen Scout Expedition.

The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and thanked SASU for organising the venue and refreshments.

The Meeting closed at 8.15pm

POTTERIES NORTH DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Section 1	Legal and Administrative Information
Charity name	Potteries North District Scout Council
Charity Commission registered number	
For the financial year beginning on	01/04/18
For the financial year ending on	31/03/19
Charity's principal address	-

Description of the charity's trusts:

Governing document	The District's governing documents are those of The Scout Association. They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and The Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.
Objects of the charity	The Aim of The Scout Association is to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local national and international communities. The method of achieving the Aim of the Association is by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training, based on the Scout Promise and Law and guided by adult leadership
Specific investment powers	None

Professional advisers:

Accountants / Scrutineer's	John Hyatt
Bankers	National Westminster Bank

Section 2	Trustees and Governance
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Name of Trustee	Dates during which named trustees acted, if not for whole period of this report	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint any charity trustee
J Hunter District Chairman	14/06/2018 – 27/06/2018	Potteries North District Scout Council
Colin Greatbatch Don Longhurst District Commissioners (Acting)	16/01/2018 – 04/02/2018	The County Commissioner
Dale Harrison District Commissioner	05/02/2018	The County Commissioner
Rob Poole District Treasurer		Potteries North District Scout Council
Judith Hunter District Secretary		Potteries North District Scout Council
Colin Greatbatch District Explorer Scout Commissioner	acting	Potteries North District Scout Council
Imogen Boote District Youth Commissioner		Potteries North District Scout Council
<i>DC's Nominated Members</i>		
Steve Travers		District Commissioner Pot. N Dist. S.C
Matt Clutton		District Commissioner Pot. N Dist. S.C
<i>Scout Council Elected Members</i>		
Mike Smith		Potteries North District Scout Council
Peter Whitehouse		Potteries North District Scout Council
Barry Walker		Potteries North District Scout Council
Richard Hawthorne		Potteries North District Scout Council
Michele Lawrence		Potteries North District Scout Council
<i>Scout Council Young Person Representative</i>		

Trustee selection method:

The District Commissioner is appointed by the County Commissioner. All the other trustees are either nominated by the District Commissioner and approved or directly elected at the Annual General Meeting of the charity.

Section 3	Activities and Achievements
<p>Summary of Achievements During the Year</p>	<p>Well what a hectic 12 months this has been, as you will read from the Section reports everyone has been busy and enjoying a wide variety of challenging and fun activities within Scouting.</p> <p>Our main priority has been to ensure that the District still functioned as a unit whilst in the process of looking for a new DC, which unfortunately seemed to drag on for longer than anticipated. Despite this we are extremely happy that all those with District roles managed to function successfully and the District events in the various section progressed as normal. The Groups under their own leadership teams flourished which is a credit to all leaders. So a huge thank you to all Leaders / helpers and the District Executive for a sterling years' work.</p> <p>During the year we again held our District Awards night at Port Vale where over 189 Beaver's, Cub's, Scout's, Explorers & Network received certificates in recognition for their Chief Scout - Bronze, Silver & Gold Awards, Young Leader Awards, Platinum & Diamond along with the Duke of Edinburgh – Bronze & Silver Awards, congratulations to everyone and thanks to all who help our young members achieve these prestigious awards. Along with the District Team we also have outstanding Young Leaders, thanks for their support in all sections, they are truly invaluable. Our Potteries North Youth Team (PNYT) again help and support both Group and District events and for this we both thank you. The Scout Active Support members (SAS) continue to do an unprecedented job and again we thank them for all their invaluable support.</p> <p>Both Don and I would personally like to thank the District Team, ADCs, GSLs every Leader, helper, supporter and most of all our young members for making this job worthwhile. Our appreciation also goes to the Executive, Judith and Rob and especially Jim for doing a sterling job as District Chair.</p>


Section 4	Policies
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<p>Reserves policy</p>	<p>The District's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the District for one year should income and fund raising fail to raise any money. The current reserves are £33,992</p>
<p>Investment Policy</p>	<p>The District's Income and Expenditure is small and therefore it has adopted a Low-risk strategy. All funds are held in cash in mainstream banks or invested in the Scout Short Term Investment Service.</p>

<p>Grant-making policy</p>	<p>The Trustees do not make grants to outside organisations</p>
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<p>Investments Selection policy</p>	<p>The Scout Association's Policy, Organisation & Rules set out the manner in which the funds of the County may be invested</p>
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Section 5	Signature and Declaration
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<p>Declaration</p>	<p>I declare, in my capacity as charity trustee, that:</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the trustees have approved the report above; and
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have authorised me to sign on their behalf.
<p>Signature</p>	
<p>Full Name</p>	<p>Jim Hunter</p>
<p>Position</p>	<p>District Chairman</p>
<p>Date</p>	<p>15th May 2019</p>

**POTTERIES NORTH DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH 2019**



<u>INCOME</u>			<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>		<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
	£	£		£	£
Badges	590	232	Badges	281	0
SAS	387	494	SAS	471	428
Census (District)	959	1,017	Census payment (County)	29,561	
Census (prior year)	1,995	0	Census receipts (Groups)	(29,561)	
			Census (nett)	0	1,875
			Stationary	512	151
Donations (Councillors)	0	800	Grants to sections	71	103
Donations (Charities)	0	2,067	Donations (Services)	250	50
Donations (Services)	342	260	(Charities)	132	2,168
(Mike Churchill)	69	1,120	(Other)	494	0
			AGM	379	153
Interest	88	741	Awards Evening	270	100
Miscellaneous	20	0	Miscellaneous	0	0
DC Gift	0	206	Wreaths	36	37
			Gifts	52	20
			DC Gift	0	250
			District Neckers	219	0
Events Team	200	0	Hi Vis Jackets	126	0
Events - Football	9	0	Events Team	300	0
Events - Swim Gala	399	0	Events - Football	150	0
District Camp	0	6,460	Events - Swim Gala	288	0
			District Camp	120	7,894
Jamboree 2019	4,955	1,667	Jamboree 2019	5,772	1,793
District Scouts Holland Trip	0	526	District Scouts Holland Trip	0	468
Chatterley(Section Grants)	0	1,000	Chatterley(Section Grants)	0	2,263
			Motion Picture Licensing	292	284
			PRS License	706	706
PNYT	472	0	PNYT	580	0
Burdi Boys	276	13,174	Burdi Boys	722	10,018
Burdi DVDs	0	820	Burdi DVDs	0	790
Church Lawton Funds	3,079	0			
			Excess Income over	1,619	1,033
			Expenditure		
Total	13,842	30,583	Total Exp.	13,842	30,583

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st March 2019

Balances at 1st April 2018

Cash	(0)
Current Account	8,273
Leek United 1yr fix 0.95% (Mar 18)	21,391
Milton Loan	2,709
Add surplus	1,619
Total	33,992

Balances at 31st March 2019

Cash	17
Current Account	12,584
Leek United 1yr fix 0.95% (Mar 18)	21,391
Milton Loan	-
Total	33,992

CENSUS BREAKDOWN - POTTERIES NORTH DISTRICT SCOUTS - 2019

	Beavers	Cubs	Scouts	Explorers	Totals	HQ Levy	County Levy	Total Received	Total to County	District Levy
						£27.50	£6.40			£1.10
	Census Rate per person									
Total	252	300	224	96	872	£23,980.00	£5,580.80	£30,520.00	£29,560.80	£959.20
1st Kidsgrove	24	28	20	13	85	£2,337.50	£544.00	£2,975.00	£2,881.50	£93.50
7th Wellington	14	21	19	8	62	£1,705.00	£396.80	£2,170.00	£2,101.80	£68.20
12th Golden Hill	8	19	7	0	34	£935.00	£217.60	£1,190.00	£1,152.60	£37.40
13th Alsager	56	56	35	14	161	£4,427.50	£1,030.40	£5,635.00	£5,457.90	£177.10
40th Stockton Brook	17	23	20	9	69	£1,897.50	£441.60	£2,415.00	£2,339.10	£75.90
51st Smallthorne	6	15	10	0	31	£852.50	£198.40	£1,085.00	£1,050.90	£34.10
59th Newchapel	18	17	17	16	68	£1,870.00	£435.20	£2,380.00	£2,305.20	£74.80
67th Burslem	6	9	10	3	28	£770.00	£179.20	£980.00	£949.20	£30.80
84th Biddulph Moor	20	15	9	7	51	£1,402.50	£326.40	£1,785.00	£1,728.90	£56.10
85th Milton	20	33	20	0	73	£2,007.50	£467.20	£2,555.00	£2,474.70	£80.30
97th Rode Heath	15	15	27	6	63	£1,732.50	£403.20	£2,205.00	£2,135.70	£69.30
99th Berry Hill	18	19	10	1	48	£1,320.00	£307.20	£1,680.00	£1,627.20	£52.80
105th Werrington	21	25	15	19	80	£2,200.00	£512.00	£2,800.00	£2,712.00	£88.00
1st Chatterley Whitfield	9	5	5	0	19	£522.50	£121.60	£665.00	£644.10	£20.90

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

POTTERIES NORTH

SCOUT GROUP/DISTRICT/COUNTY/AREA SCOUT COUNCIL

I report on the accounts of the Group/District/County/Area for the year ended 31/03/2019 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes set out on pages.....

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

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

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

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *):

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

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply

Name: JOHN HYATT J. Hyatt
Qualification: PART QUALIFIED A.C.C.A.
Address: 42 GAYTON AVENUE
MILTON STOKES-ON-TRENT ST2 7BU
Date: 31st MAY 2019



Charity Name
Potteries North District Scout Council

No (if any)

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from 01/04/2018 To 31/03/2019

Section A Receipts and payments

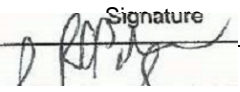
	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
SAS	387	-	-	387	494
Interest	88	-	-	88	741
Badges	590	-	-	590	232
Collection at Services	342	-	-	342	260
Donations (Councillors)		-	-	-	800
Collections (Donna Louise)		-	-	-	2,067
Donations (Mike Churchill)	69	-	-	69	1,120
District Levy	959	-	-	959	1,017
Census 2018	1,995	-	-	1,995	
Miscellaneous	20	-	-	20	
DC Gift		-	-	-	206
Chatterley Whitfield		-	-	-	1,000
Jamboree	4,955	-	-	4,955	1,667
Burdi Boys	276	-	-	276	13,174
Burdi DVDs		-	-	-	820
District camp		-	-	-	6,460
District Scout Trip Holland		-	-	-	526
Events Team	200				
Events - Football	9				
Events - Swim Gala	399				
PNYT	472	-	-	472	
Church Lawton Funds	3,079			3,079	
Sub total	13,842	-	-	13,233	30,583
A2 Payments					
SAS	471	-	-	471	428
DC Expenses				-	-
Badges	281				
Grants to Sections	71	-	-	71	103
AGM	379			379	153
Awards Evenings	270	-	-	270	100
Gifts	52	-	-	52	20
DC Gift		-	-	-	250
Postage & Stationery	512	-	-	512	151
Motion Picture Licensing	292	-	-	292	284
PRS Licensing	706	-	-	706	706
Donations (Services)	250	-	-	250	50
Donations (Donna Louise)				-	2,168
Donations (Parkinsons)	132				
Donations (other)	494				
Miscellaneous		-	-	-	
District Neckers	219				
Hi Vis Jackets	126				
Jamboree	5,772	-	-	5,772	1,793
Wreaths	36	-	-	36	37
Chatterley Whitfield		-	-	-	2,263
First Aid Course		-	-	-	
Events - District camp	120	-	-	120	7,894
Events Team	300				
Events - Football	150				
Events - Swim Gala	288				
District Scout Trip Holland		-	-	-	468
Census		-	-	-	1,875
Burdi Boys	722	-	-	722	10,018
Burdi Hoodies		-	-	-	790
PNYT	580	-	-	580	-
Sub total	12,222	-	-	10,232	29,550
Net of receipts/(payments)	1,619	-	-	1,619	1,033
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	32,372	-	-	32,372	31,339
Cash funds this year end	33,992	-	-	33,992	32,372

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash	17	-	-
	Current Account	12,584		
	Leek United (1yr fix 0.95%)	21,391		
	Milton Loan	-		-
	Total cash funds		33,992	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature




Print Name

ROBERT POOLE

Date of approval

14/05/2019

Signature



Print Name

JIM HUNTER

Date of approval

14/05/2019

Potteries North District Commissioners Report 2018 - 2019

Well what a hectic 12 months this has been, as you will read from the Section reports everyone has been busy enjoying a wide variety of challenging and fun activities within Scouting.

During the last 12 months our main priority has been to ensure that the District still functioned as a unit whilst in the process of looking for a new DC, which unfortunately seemed to drag on for longer than anticipated. Despite this we are extremely happy that all the District Team managed to function successfully and District events in the various sections progressed as normal. Groups under their own leadership teams flourished which is a credit to all Leaders. So a huge thank you to all Leaders / Helpers and the District Executive for a sterling years' work.

During the year we again held our District Awards night at Port Vale where over 189 Beaver's, Cub's, Scout's, Explorers & Network received certificates in recognition for their Chief Scout - Bronze, Silver & Gold Awards, Young Leader Awards, Platinum & Diamond Awards along with the Duke of Edinburgh – Bronze & Silver Awards, congratulations to everyone and thanks to all who helped our young members achieve these prestigious awards. Along with the District Team we also have outstanding Young Leaders, thanks for their support in all sections, they are truly invaluable. Our Potteries North Youth Team (PNYT) again helps and supports both Group and District events and for this we both thank you. The Scout Active Support members (SAS) continue to do an unprecedented job and again we thank them for all their invaluable support.

Both Don and I would personally like to thank the District Team, ADCs, GSLs every Leader, helper, supporter and most of all our young members for making this job worthwhile. Our appreciation also goes to the Executive, Judith and Rob and especially Jim for doing a sterling job as District Chair.

Which brings us both to the point where we return to our roles as Deputy District Commissioners and give a very big warm welcome to our new District Commission, Dale Harrison. He has a large task ahead but I'm sure with everyone's commitment and support he will do a fantastic job.

All the very best and over to you Dale..... and now for the next chapter within Potteries North District.

Colin Greatbatch



Colin Greatbatch
District Commissioner (acting)

Don Longhurst



Don Longhurst
District Commissioner (acting)

Firstly I would like to thank Don and Colin for their hard work over the last year.

During my first few months of being District Commissioner I have been impressed by the commitment and dedication of all adult volunteers who help to keep scouting in Potteries North Scout District thriving.

All youth members continue to have an exciting and rewarding scouting experience; they have attended many events and camps which have produced life long memories. We should not under estimate the life skills which they develop and use, we should all be proud of our collective achievements.

Looking forward, Scouting is going through a period of change and we must be able to adapt to this change and continue to deliver Scouting for all, putting Youth Members at the heart of everything we do and ensure we build on successes and as a District we will continue to grow and develop.

'#youthshaped'



Dale Harrison
District Commissioner

When writing the District Annual Report, it gives an opportunity to step back from the day to day happenings and reflect on what has happened over a longer period. I have served on the District Executive for many years and this will be my last report as Chair, but reflection is only useful if it points us forward. The District is committed to the Scout Associations vision for 2023 and are making financial preparations to assist with its delivery. As a District we maintain the Motion Picture licence and the PRS licence, for music, and endeavour to offer financial support to Jamboree participants.

This year saw some change at the top of the District Leadership Team. The year started with both Colin Greatbatch and Don Longhurst in the role of Acting District Commissioners. They proved an asset to the District, and we were able to function in a competent manner, they stayed positive and cheerful – an example to us all.

The appointment of a new DC was the responsibility of the County Commissioner; we were able to welcome Dale Harrison to the position in February 2019.

The District Executive has met five times since the last AGM, continuing its role of managing the District budget, and responding to requests for help and advice from Groups. All members of the District Executive have carried out their committee duties with enthusiasm, mostly in addition to their other Scouting roles, and I would like to thank them for their dedication.

At this year's census we saw a drop in Membership for the first time in many years. It has to remain our ambition to provide the benefits of Scouting to as many young people as possible, not only those on waiting lists but also those in areas of the District or from backgrounds we have not yet reached. It has to be a priority to regain the momentum on Membership. It is not just a challenge for hard pressed District Commissioners. Everyone can help for example by encouraging friends to become involved to meet the shortage of Leaders or helpers, or by using their influence in other circles to ensure that venues are retained, and new ones made available for Groups to meet.

It is encouraging to read the Sectional ADC' reports, they are filled with activities and adventures; the commitment of the Leaders and volunteers, the skills and care shown, these have all demonstrated the benefits our young people have obtained from being part of Potteries North District. There is so much to admire, and I thank the ADC's and all of the Leaders for this on behalf of the Executive Committee.

It has been a wonderful experience to be part of Potteries North, I would thank everyone for the friendship and support they have given me. I hope my successor finds the role as enjoyable and satisfying as I have, and I wish them well.

Jim Hunter
District Chair

Sixty Potteries North Beavers were amongst 180 young people taking part in the County's Damboree weekend at Kibblestone in June 18. Damboree is a UK wide initiative to get Beavers camping under canvas, as well as encouraging Beaver leaders to work towards, and ultimately gain their Campsite permits. I am delighted to say that four leaders from PN were assessed and received their permits over the weekend. Each young person also had the opportunity to partake in two adventurous activities – something that some colonies struggle to provide due to high cost and/or permit holder availability.

Early October saw Beavers attending the annual sleepover/activity day. The theme this year, of Superheroes, was chosen by Beavers attending the previous year's event. Despite torrential rain for most of the Saturday, a range of activities from capes and masks to the Burdi Boys production team teaching singing and dancing, gave the Beavers a diverse and enjoyable day. Before going home the young people on camp chose the theme of Dinosaurs for 2019.

Beavers once again joined the older sections in late October and took part in the football competition. Despite only four colonies taking part, all Beavers had fun and showed great enthusiasm. Congratulations to Milton who took home the trophy this year.

Fenton Manor was the venue for the Beaver swimming evening in January. Beavers and Cubs swam in a joint session, with more Beavers attending than in the previous year. This appears to be becoming a popular event that allows the young people to complete a swimmer 'staged badge' or simply have a play and make new friends.

The much requested Alternative Sports Day took part in April at Horizon Sports Centre, Chell. This new event on the Beaver calendar had been asked for by Groups not wanting to take part in the football competition. Originally scheduled for June, but moved to April, when a clash in dates meant many colonies were unable to attend. A total of 49 Beavers from four colonies, split into six groups, took part (unfortunately the new date still clashed with three colonies being on camp). Ten events including caber tossing, balloon popping and nerf shooting entertained the Beavers for two and a half hours. Whilst the scores for events were totalled a separate tug-of-war competition was held. Milton won the t-o-w and went on to be crowned overall winners of the Alternative Sports Day trophy, with Oliver C from Werrington, winning the individual points trophy. All Beavers left with a certificate and a bag of sweets. One leader said "Definitely one to do every year. The variety of activities play to everyone's strengths".

With the annual District Awards evening coming up in May, I am very much looking forward to presenting 76 Bronze Chief Scout Awards. This is a fantastic number and reflects the hard work and dedication put in throughout the year by Beaver leadership teams and young leaders across the District. I want to thank everyone involved in the running of our Beaver colonies for the time, energy and enthusiasm you dedicate to the youngest members of the Scouting community.

Sam Boote
ADC Beaver Scouts



Potteries North Cub Scout Annual Report 2018 - 2019

Well another year, another DC!! We welcome Dale with open arms and I am sure he can lead potteries north into the vision 2023

“By 2023 we will have prepared more young people with skills for life, supported by amazing leaders delivering an inspiring programme, we will be growing, more inclusive, shaped by young people and making a bigger impact in our communities.”

Where do I start yet again cubs have had a great year with lots of District activities on offer our first event of the year saw us visit Kibblestone for a Cub Day we had several groups attend and Kibblestone provided us with lots of adventurous activities. We ended the day altogether with snacks and a drink.

County Camp saw a weekend of glorious weather, more than a 100 cubs joined in the fun at Beaudesert with an amazing cook team behind us it meant that leaders could enjoy the activities which included laser tag, Burdi dancing, Bell boating, barefoot walk, Archery, bricks 4 fun, cooking and the sun was out for all. The events team helped to set up and run the football wow what a difference I actually got to see the cubs play football still don't get the rules but I am learning, we had seven teams join in and great matches all round - Well done to Stockton Brook

Our annual swimming night saw cubs practising for the swimming gala and having the opportunity to earn their staged swimming badges with many achieved stage 2 and 3. The swimming gala saw cubs from all over the District coming together to compete another excellent event which saw Stockton Brook take home the trophy. Unfortunately, the outstanding swimmer on the night trophy wasn't returned this year so we couldn't run this award.

St George's Day was a fantastic event with cubs enjoying the parade through Tunstall and the service in Christchurch where we had a very modern version of St George and the dragon cubs and beavers from Newchapel were invited to get involved

Renewal of the promise was a very proud leader moment, when a cub, stood up in front of everyone and said the promise for all to repeat.

A massive well done to Hope Haynes

We had a very successful night for awards with 60 cubs receiving their top award. Well done to all a great achievement and shows how much the groups are doing within their own sections. Cubs have had another good year but all this cannot be done without a team behind me, I would like to thank everyone that has taken part in making it possible for Potteries North Cubs.

As this goes to print I will be changing roles,

I can honestly say I have had a blast with Cubs and have continued to learn from you all, Now it is time for a change.

Cubs and Leaders there will be a party to complete my time as ADC Cubs.

Ceris Walker
ADC Cub Scouts

The District Scout Section has had a successful 12 months, during the year we saw all Groups enjoying sleep-overs, camps and various outdoor activities, challenges, trips and visits in different parts of the UK. The Scout Section is providing exciting and challenging experiences that give the young people the opportunities to achieve and also enjoy themselves. All of these events would not be possible but for the tremendous effort, freely given, by the Scout Leaders and their Assistants. For this, for their time and invaluable support over the past year, I truly thank them.

The year commenced with a visit to Kidsgrove Scouts to interview 4 scouts for their Chief Scout Gold Award. Congratulations to the Scouts who completed the interview and had their awards presented.

A skills workshop for Scout Leader was organised by the SAS, this proved to be a very useful event and was appreciated by all who attended.

The Awards Evening had a good representation from the Scout Section and we were proud of the Young people who received Awards. The Awards Ceremony was closely followed by the Annual St. George's Day Parade and once again nearly all troops within the District attended. The District Event Team organised the Service and this took a lot of pressure off the Leaders, who appreciated their efforts and were of the opinion it all went very well.

The year continued with the usual District Challenges, Camps and Competitions. All participants thoroughly enjoyed themselves and all looked forward to the new District Challenge Hike which was to be held in June. The Hike's start and finish was at Knypersley Country Park Ranger Station. We had six teams taking part and two teams completed the challenge, which was won by Alsager Gladstone with Stockton Brook runners up. Don Longhurst arranged a new trophy for the competition. An evaluation meeting was held to decide how we could improve next year's hike and a new set of rules have now been drawn up.

Scout Leader Meetings have been held on a regular basis and I thank all who have attended and supported the District Scout Events over the past 12 months.

It is with regret that I am standing down from the position of ADC Scouts. Personal reasons have brought me to this decision, I will endeavour to continue to support Potteries North in my other roles and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the DSL Jean Pursell, all the Scout Leaders and Scouts in the district, the DDCs for all their help and support over the years and offer my best wishes for the future to Potteries North District.

David Fairbrother
ADC Scouts

EXPLORERS Potteries North Explorer Annual Report 2017 - 2018

Having only recently taken on the role of District Explorer Scout Commissioner I have been actively visiting the Explorer units to talk with our leaders and Explorers, to discuss Youth led and District Explorers. I have had some great feedback and idea's from the groups. There are still some groups to visit and hope to see everyone before the Summer break commences.

At the awards night our Explorers were recognised for their achievements and we had 13 Platinum, 5 Diamond Chief Scout awards, 4 Young Leader Buckles, 14 DoE Bronze and 7 DoE Silver recipients. Our aim is to be able to offer every Explorer in our District the opportunity to achieve awards.

We have been fortunate to have had Explorers successfully gaining places on Jamboree's; we have 3 Explorers taking part in the World Scout Jamboree Staffordshire contingent and will be representing Potteries North in the USA this Summer. Congratulations Anthony, Jessica and Niamh!

Another 2 Explorers have been successful this year at the selection camp for the European Jamboree Poland 2020. Congratulations Evie and Jessica!

I look forward to working with our District Explorer Leaders as a team to encourage, empower and support our young people with Skills for Life.

Sara Walklet
District Explorer Scout Commissioner



Potteries North Young Leader Annual Report 2018 - 2019

The Young Leaders' (YL) Scheme helps Explorer Scouts to develop and grow as individuals. It allows them to make a valuable contribution to their community and give service to others. The scheme also helps them fulfil the service elements of their Chief Scout awards. It is an ongoing programme of training for 14 to 18 year olds. It is designed to enable Young Leaders to work effectively in the Section that they choose, to gain skills and knowledge that will assist them to become an effective leader.

The Scheme contains 11 modules and four missions for Young Leader's to work through whilst volunteering in their chosen section. Modules give Young Leader's the skills and knowledge to be successful in their role, while missions allow them to put everything into practice with support. Recognition of achievement is available along the way, and on completion of the Scheme, the Young Leader is awarded with a Young Leader belt buckle.

County continue to provide training weekends for Young Leaders in November and February; we have had Young Leader buckle recipients attend the weekends as mentors and have been great ambassadors for our District on these events due to their dedication to the scheme.

Currently our District has 54 Young leaders working with other sections. 2018-2019 we saw 4 Young Leader belts awarded, which is fantastic achievement; and we would like this to continue and with the help of Young Leader contacts in the groups, County and I, we hope to support and encourage new members with the training scheme.

For further information about Young Leaders please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sara Walklet
Explorer Scout Leader (Young Leaders)

This past year has seen some changes. Starting with the appointment of our new DC (congratulations Dale!).

Last summer PNYT held a community fun day at Hanley Park. Open to all members of the community, the fun day sported stalls run by WSJ members, Potteries North Groups and local community. The aim of this day was to promote scouting within the local community, as well as offering a perfect fundraising platform for our groups and WSJ representatives. There was a board with all the Groups locations within the District and I had the opportunity to speak to several people about joining scouting, the benefits and why scouting is so great. Well done to PNYT for putting on a great event. Fun was had by all who attended.

District Beaver Day 2018 was superhero themed! This theme was chosen by the Beavers who attended the previous District day in 2017. This year the Beavers took part in a district ballot, deciding the theme for 2019. Drum roll please... the 2019 theme is ... Dinosaurs!

In October 2018, we released a Leader's questionnaire. Although slightly disappointed with response numbers, the overall feedback was great.

Last year I went along to the County Young Leader training. This was a great opportunity to meet Young Leaders from across Staffordshire County but more importantly to meet Young Leaders from Potteries North. Whilst there I gave a short talk about Youth Shaped Scouting and the role Young Leaders can play within their Groups, District and County.

February 2019 was the last YouShape month (as we know it). On from this, focus shifts to supporting and promoting Youth Involvement throughout the year and the whole programme, not focusing on just one month. This includes getting young people on Group/District committees so that all decisions are influenced by youth members. The UK has appointed a new UKYC Team who have new ideas for youth shaped scouting in the UK moving forward.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who supports me in my role as NYC. Over the next 12 months I look forward to going out and visiting sections throughout the District, supporting young people and leaders to deliver great programmes and youth led scouting to achieve great things!

Imogen Boote

District Youth Commissioner



Potteries North Youth Team Annual Report 2018 - 2019

Over the past year Potteries North Youth Team (PNYT) have supported and taken part in lots of activities. We've received a great deal of support from the District that has allowed us to start the work of the #skillsforlife vision!

The team spent the majority of last year planning and carrying out the Community Fun Day that was held on June 23rd at Hanley Park. The team spent over 18 months planning for the day which was a huge success. It saw a significant amount of group and community involvement, we are very proud of how the day turned out. The team worked extremely hard to make sure the day will be a great success and we are very grateful for all the support we have received from the district and many local business from within the community.

Two members of the team are going on international journeys over the following year, the team has spent time supporting our members and others from the district and surrounding districts to raise money for their trips. We hope to continue supporting young people, so they are able to have these life changing experiences.

Over the rest of the year, the team will be focusing on expanding the team, whilst working towards the #skillsforlife vision. In addition, the team will be supporting a number of district events, such as the County Beaver weekend in July and also the District Gang show, Burdi Boys in November.

2018/2019 has been a successful year for the team. We look forward to the following months where we aim to expand the team. I would like to say thank you for the continued support over the last year. We look forward to working towards the new vision and continuing to provide and support further activities in the future.

Amy Ratcliffe
Youth Team Chair

The Scout Active Support membership is a total of 32 made up of 15 female and 17 males.

The past year once again continued to be busy with a variety of activities, and we are also continuing to be very successful, so far, in achieving our aims as set out in our Service Agreement with the District Commissioner for the year up to September 2019 when we have our own AGM.

This year the Unit has been particularly busy with the help given to the District, with a group of members particularly still helping the new Group at Chell Heath for longer than was anticipated. We are also happy to help with the St. George's day and the Christmas services as usual. We have also been happy to assist with the swimming gala, and various other activities and competitions. We have taken part in a few social events and successful days out, and we have continued to hold our highly successful dinners and lunches which are more or less every two months.

It is always worth reminding District members that there is a wealth of Scouting experience in the Scout Active Support Unit and many years of dedicated service to the Movement, so please feel free to continue to use our skills.

We have changed the format of our meetings slightly so as to give various members and invited guests a chance to speak or give a presentation. Subjects, being mainly of a Scouting theme but we are open to other topics.

We look forward to a busy year next year especially as it will be a Burdi Gang Show year and once again throw open an invitation to all adults in Scouting in the Potteries North District to join us. You don't have to leave your present post; this is extra-curricular. I am pleased to say that some people have already done so, and I do believe that they even enjoy it!

Malcolm Blaze
Scout Active Support Unit Manager

Report of Last Round of Awards 2018/19



Bar to Silver Acorn (St. George's Day Awards)

Frank Meakin	59 th Newchapel	Potteries North
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Silver Acorn (St. George's Day Awards)

Don Longhurst	DDC	Potteries North
Colin Greatbatch	DDC	Potteries North
Dave Swindells	ASL	1 st Kidsgrove

Award for Merit

Rob Poole	District Treasurer	Potteries North
Barry Walker	Scout Leader	105 th Werrington
Ceris Walker	ADC Cub Scouts	Potteries North
John Ratcliffe	Scout Leader	40th Stockton Brook
Margaret Morris	SASU Member	Potteries North

Commissioners Commendation

Shay Norman	Explorer Scout / District Media Advisor	1 st Alsager
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