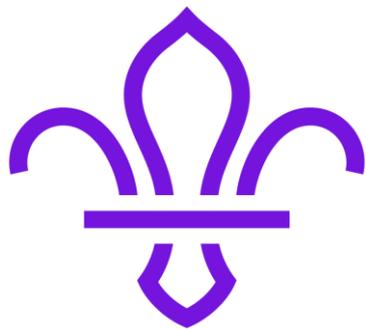


District Celebration Evening 2019

Blaydon & District Scouts



Agenda

Chairman's Opening Remarks	
District Commissioner Investiture	
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Awards & Presentations	23
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Refreshments	

Beaver Scout Report

Delivered by Stef Laird, Beaver Leader, 1st Blaydon

Cub Scouts Report

Delivered by Jamie Ion, Cub Leader, 1st Chopwell

Since 2016, Cub Scout Leaders in Blaydon District have been uniting together with programmes, events and leadership meetings to create a stronger programme for Cubs throughout the district.

Throughout 2018, Our Cubs at district level have taken part in several fantastic activities. It's with the support and dedication of our young leaders, adult volunteers and supporters from across the district that we can make these events happen.

Throughout the year, cubs took part in and attended several events including:

- District Climbing Day in January
- Joint Beaver & Cub Winter Walk in February
- Climb when ready in March
- District swim in March
- County Pete Swinney in May
- Beamish Flag Weekend in May
- Cubboree in June
- The Paisley Challenge
- Family Camp in July
- Pantomime @ Tyne Theatre in December

The success of Cub Scouting in Blaydon District is shown not simply by census, but by seeing how much our members are enjoying their programmes and their success in achieving badges and top awards.

In September, it was great to see so many of our Cubs from across the district at Durham Awards 2018 being celebrated for their success by being awarded their Chief Scout Silver Awards.

I would also like to say thanks to Helen Laird for her support during her time as DC. Without her support, the Cub section wouldn't have progressed to where it is today. Thanks to Helen, we now have our annual district cub camp and Paisley Challenge event.

To finish, I'd like to show you this quick video from Cubboree 2018 – it shows some of the activities that our Cub Scouts get up to within Scouting.

Scout Section Report

Delivered by Howard Gilfillan, Assistant District Commissioner (Scouts)

The Scout Section consists of 5 troops; Blaydon, Chopwell, Crawcrook, Ryton & Winlaton

All of whom are led by dedicated and caring leaders. It is my continued pleasure to work alongside such a selfless group of people.

After reaching a peak of 102 Scouts in 2016 a 36% rise on the figure five years previous it was concerning to report a significant downturn in numbers for 2017. Scout section numbers in 2017 stood at 79 Scouts (48 Male- 61% and 31 Female -39%) a fall of 22% on the previous year. However 2018 has seen a rise in numbers to 86 Scouts (52 Male- 60% and 34 Female 40 %) This rise of almost 9% was almost twice the Durham County average Whereas the quality of the programmes being delivered within the individual troops continues to be consistently high, it is evident that the key factors of recruitment and retention require our consideration at all times. Movement upwards into the Explorer section continues to be both very pleasing and significant. .

The District Scout competitions remain ever popular events and support the work carried out on a weekly basis in the provision of exciting and enjoyable programmes for young people within the movement.

First Aid Competition – 29th April 2018

Seven teams took part from (Blaydon, Chopwell, Ryton and Winlaton). Compared to the previous years (2 entries) the number of entries was very encouraging. Over the last 10 years we have had as many as 6 teams competing at the event, with the average number of teams competing being 4 prior to 2017. A more acceptable date was chosen for the 2018 event which resulted in a fantastic response' exceeding expectations.

Team Name	Troop	Total Points(Max 240)	Position
3 and a Bit Musketeers	Ryton	163	3
Hurumby	Blaydon	165	2
Potato Heads	Winlaton	162	4
Red Squirrels	Winlaton	177	1
Juke Box Unicorns	Chopwell	155	5
Super 8	Chopwell	138	6
Howlers	Blaydon	132	7

Seven elements of First-Aid and general First-Aid knowledge, as well as three rescue skills were assessed as Scouts visited 7 checkpoints around a 3km course around Slayley Forest with refreshments provided at the finish point. My sincere thanks to all who helped stage the event.

Kirby Shield Camping Competition- 16th /17th June 2018

Our oldest district competition, the Kirby Shield has gone from strength to strength since it was taken over by members of the Network section in 2016, the 2018 competition was a again huge success thanks to our district Network members.

This year's event was also blessed with good weather and as a consequence it produced a very good competition between the four teams who entered. Three troops were represented Crawcrook, Ryton and Winlaton

Great credit must go to David Below and his Network colleagues for delivering such a great experience for the Scouts.cf

The teams were assessed on the following ;-

- Initial Inspection - Uniform/Smartness/ Equipment Inspection
- Leadership/Teamwork/Timing
- Setting up site – layout/tents/kitchen/food storage/menu/camp gadgets
- Striking Camp – site inspection/equipment packing
- Evening meal/Breakfast and Lunch
- Preparation/cooking
- Timing/efficiency
- Presentation/quality
- Scouts Own – Contribution
- Noise levels
- Plus a variety of Scouting skills

Troop	Max Points	Ryton Thor	Ryton Loki	Crawcrook Ultron	Winlaton Hulk
Final Score	220	188	176	162	153
Position		1st	2nd	3rd	4 th

Well done to everyone who took part

Well done and a sincere thank you to all those people who made this possible.

Thunderbird – September 29th/30th 2018 – the 55th Thunderbird

The event was held in Slayley forest, across Blanchland Moor and in and around Blanchland terminating at the Blanchland's main car park.. As in the previous year it was successful in many respects and even more so as the weather conditions were once again favourable, The event was fantastically well supported. In total 27 Scouts plus 24 Leaders/Network/Helpers and 14 Explorer Scouts/Young Leaders attended the weekend. All were to be applauded for their efforts/endurance and spirit which contributed greatly to the overall success of the competition. There were 26 checkpoints, 34 separate written orders and 59 scoring incidents. Six teams took part in the competition, representing the Blaydon, Crawcrook, Ryton and Winlaton troops.

For the twelfth year running the Community Hall was booked for the weekend, which again proved to be a very useful facility.

Thunderbird Results

Maximum Possible	Happy	Dopey	Sneezy	Grumpy	Doc	Sleepy
820	551	650	631	539	518	580
Pos	4th	1st	2nd	5th	6 th	3rd
Group	Craw	Ryton	Ryton	Win	Win	Blaydon

- Jo Stobbart – Izzy Rodrigues (Ryton)
- The Crazy Bird – Happy (Crawcrook)

The event was well managed by all those involved and hopefully enjoyable for all the participants.

My special thanks to all who helped and gave up their time to make the 2019 event such a success.

As usual with an event of this scale a number of issues were raised which will require further attention prior to the 2019 competition.

County/National

Troops have also been kept up to date with County/National matters as appropriate mostly via e-mail and District Meetings plus regular updates from County Programme Support Meetings. My thanks to the County team for keeping the District fully informed and supported throughout the year

The Scout Section is open and ready to respond to all new proposed initiatives placing young people's views at the centre of our planning and provision. To this end meetings are regularly held to make our District events more appropriate, appealing and inclusive.

Finally my thanks to my wife Claire for all her help and support, and to all those people who have helped me to stage events throughout the year, Parents, Helpers, District Officers, the Scout Section Leaders and particularly Helen Laird in her final year as DC. I look forward to an equally positive 2019/2020 with many changes anticipated.

H Gilfillan

ADC Scouts

19th March 2019

Explorer Scout Report

Delivered by Colin Hurst, District Explorer Scout Commissioner

The past year has continued to be a successful one for the District Explorer Scout Unit (Phoenix ESU), despite our overall drop in number of young people registered with the unit, the programme has continued to develop and grow.

There are a number of reasons why our numbers have dropped in the past year:- Explorers attaining Network age and moving on, part time work and school commitments, the lure of other leisure activities and hobbies (we have had one or two move to the ATC and Army cadets, probably with one eye on future careers) and our own successful programme. It appears that some of our more marginal Explorers in the past year remained with us whilst they were at school with the aim of attaining Duke of Edinburgh awards as a CV credit for post 16 college and once the aim had been achieved decided to leave us. Similarly one or two simply remained with us in order to participate in the Switzerland trip and once it was over decided not to return. The Unit leadership team are not particularly worried by this apparent downward trend, the overall membership number last year could have been something of a false one and perhaps it is the case with regular weekly attendees of around thirty we have found our manageable level. Whilst we will always look towards the growth of Explorers in the District, the current situation means that for the time being we can temporarily shelve the formation of a second Unit and the demands which that would have required, as was discussed at last year's AGM and concentrate on the further development of the existing unit and its leaders.

The past year has seen some changes within the leadership structure of the Unit. Alex HALEY and Sarah STOKES unfortunately had to step down from the unit primarily due to work commitments, I thank them for their efforts and contribution to the Unit. Similarly Ruth STOKES decided to retire from her Explorer responsibilities after the Switzerland trip last summer to concentrate on other areas of scouting, again I thank her for her efforts and contribution. We have welcomed a number of new leaders into the unit. Straight off the streets (as it were) we have recruited Mark YOUNG. Ben HURST and Dan MINTO have joined our ranks after progressing through the Network. I should also mention of course Simon BABB, Malcolm STEAD and Brandon FIDDES who continue to do sterling work with the unit. Similar thanks go to Helen LAIRD, Graham ELDER and Jamie ION who have given practical help and support to the programme particularly in respect of our D of E and Young Leader programme commitments. At present we are of course short of a lady leader to assist with the Unit and are looking for suitably keen volunteers to step up to the breach. As I move onto new responsibilities within the District I thank all leaders and adults who have led and supported Explorer

scouting in Blaydon with the assurance that despite my new lofty position I won't be very far away where the Unit is concerned (and I promise not to interfere too much).

The Phoenix ESU continues to win County Competitions. This last year has seen a clean sweep of the board in all competitions entered: the only exception being Sanctuary which was held during the summer when the Unit was away in Switzerland and for which we didn't enter a team. Trophies from Midnight Madness, Bubble Football, Monopoly Run and only last month the premier competition Geoffrey Gordon Cup have all been handed over to teams from Blaydon District Explorers. The Geoffrey Gordon is perhaps the ultimate win for the Unit, twenty five teams over two days, in which the team, Peter ELDER, Cooper BRITTON, Daniel MARCHEGIAN, Matthew CARRICK and Alex HIVES were winners by a huge margin of points and whereby the next favourite team from another District considered withdrawing at the last minute upon discovering that we were entering. Whilst the successes are undoubtedly due to the abilities determination and resilience of the individual Explorers themselves, it is also a reflection of the training that Explorers receive not only from the Unit but is also fundamental to their previous experiences with their original groups, both the training they receive and their past participation in District competitions. Being involved with Thunderbird both as competitors and latterly as helpers (which the unit continues to do) gives the older section excellent foundations for success at all levels. Of course, competitions are not for everyone, but we will continue to identify those Explorers who do want to compete, train and advise then accordingly which hopefully will continue the recent successes that we have had. Phoenix ESU sets the standards which others in the County can only follow and this is a measure of the quality of programmes within all sections of the District which leaders continually deliver.

Badge work is at the core of all sections of Scouting and continues to be so for the Explorers. The number of proficiency and challenge badges that have been awarded in the past year are too numerous to mention, needless to say that the standards for award remains high, with the leadership team continually demanding quality work from the young people before badges are handed out. The programme includes the Chief Scouts awards system and in the last year Explorers from the Unit have attained the following:-

Platinum award - Sian PITKETHLY

Diamond Award - Cameron STRAUGHAN : Isaac TARRANT : James HARRISON

The D of E programme continues to go from strength to strength and the record speaks for itself: the below detailed Explorer Scouts and a leader have been awarded D of E at various stages. The scheme is of course recognised and highly commended by both employers and education establishments alike:-

Bronze – Sian PITKETHLY : Matthew LAWRENCE : Daniel MARCHEGIANI : Ailsa HOLMES : Emile TARRANT : Matthew HEATH : Joshua COCKBAIN : Harry CRADOCK :

Emma GIBSON : Lucas GIBSON : Daniel RODRIGUES : Thomas CARR : Cooper
BRITTON : Ryan LAYBOURNE : Lucas STRAUGHAN : Sophie
GOODACRE

Silver - Bethany FRASER : Daniel MARCHEGIANI

Gold - Sarah STOKES : Peter ELDER : Robert PHILIPSON : Anna HEATH :
Cameron STRAUGHAN

Of particular mentioned is the fact that a member of the unit has become the youngest Queens Scout in Durham Scout County and congratulations go to Peter ELDER for this fantastic achievement. It is an achievement which cannot be under estimated

It is the case that through its achievements and success in all levels of badge work Phoenix Explorer Scout Unit are at the forefront of scouting in providing our young people with skills for life.

The weekly and seasonal programme continues to develop and expand with a programme based upon traditional scouting skills and values intermingled with a more “modern” approach to some activities.

The unit has in the past twelve months been represented at Family Camp and Thunderbird the latter where assistance was rendered both in terms of the catering and the management of check points.

A winter camp was held in February this year with the venue being changed from the Northumberland site that we have used for the last couple of years to relocate in Comondale in the North York Moors. Saturdays programme consisted of a couple of hikes for Explorers of differing abilities with the aim of honing map and compass skills followed by a five (or was it six) course banquet kindly provided by Mrs LAIRD A trip to Whitby the following day for fish and chips at the seaside completed the weekend.

Weekly meetings have included things like a beach bar-be-que and beach games night, various activities at Gibside, firelighting and backwoods cooking, cooking activities including the ever popular Ready Steady Cook and a made up curry night where the Explorers selected their own ingredients and spices and evenings where we have examined the diversities of for instance religion and politics. The Units programme focuses very much on preparing our young people for life or as I occasionally describe it: to become decent members of society at the end of the “sausage factory”.

The pinnacle of last years’ programme was of course the expedition to Switzerland where two thirds of the participants came from the Unit and a “great time was had by all”. The trip has been previously debriefed elsewhere and I do not propose to revisit it here, suffice to say that it was the first time that a Unit from the District had ventured abroad for ten years or so. Whilst many leaders and adults made some fantastic

contributions to the trip both before and during it, it remains the case that from the very outset the driving force behind it was of course Helen LAIRD without whom it would never have got off the ground in the first place. I once again thank her for making it possible but on this occasion this is with an ulterior motive as we don't want to wait for another ten years for another one and there are already some thoughts as to where we'll be going next. I am relying on Helens enthusiasm and willingness to organise the next foreign expedition: watch this space!

Much of last year was taken up with planning and fund raising for Switzerland and as such it was necessary to shelve some of our activities particularly weekends away. In the coming months, the Unit have already planned a number of outdoor and adventurous activities with a bike ride, a nights bivouacking and a lazy camp being high on the agenda.

The Phoenix Explorer Scout Unit is a credit to Blaydon District Scouts and as I take on new responsibilities within the District I am confident that as the DESC I have left it in a better place than it was before I took up the role, but more importantly, that it is in safe hands with its current leaders and its new DESC, Simon BABB who I will make my first appointment in my role as DC. It will continue to expand and develop, providing an interesting dynamic and challenging programme which will provide the older section of our scouting family with skills for life!

Scout Network Report

Delivered by Alex Haley, District Scout Network Commissioner

2018 was a good year for Blaydon Network. We had a meeting recently to try and think of all the things we've done - at the beginning we struggled to think of anything but we soon got going!

The biggest event for us last year was of course the District's international trip to Switzerland. Network members were involved in all aspects in the run up to the trip, including programme planning, organising media plans and logistics and of course doing our bit for fundraising in preparation for taking 40+ young people on a trip of a lifetime! It wasn't all like hard work though, with our members getting involved in white water rafting, canyoning, via ferrata and pretty much every other activity on offer, as well as one evening spent peeling hundreds of eggs for sandwiches. Some of us even went for a run!

A highlight was our attendance at the fundraising ball held in March at the Assembly Rooms in Newcastle - cheesy photo attached. Another one was our team who climbed to a remote mountain hut in Switzerland for an overnight stay. The food, company and experience itself was incredible, and it was a huge achievement for some of our members.

Aside from Switzerland shenanigans, we've been involved in loads of other District events. Network has been represented at the scout's First Aid competition, we ran Kirby Shield again at Dilston in June, we formed part of the leadership team at Thunderbird in October and attended Confido with the Explorer section. I think it's also important to recognise the support that comes in the form of Network members in almost every section and group across the District - these guys do a fantastic job in their leadership roles so definitely deserve a bit of respite every now and again, usually in the form of a few drinks in the Runhead on the last Wednesday of the month!

Being "young adults" brings a lot of stereotypes, one being that people generally think all we do is spend free time in the pub. But we all know that the best activities are organised in the pub, so it's only right that I share some of the things we've got planned for 2019. Skiing, a hiking trip to the Lakes, go karting, bothying, and in true stereotypical style, a tour of Blaydon Brewery.

I'd also like to pass on my thanks to David Below who has carried out the District Scout Network Commissioner role so enthusiastically for the last few years. He has now joined the ranks of "Network alumni" along with a few other people who still hang around. I'd also like to thank Jamie Ion for doing the wonderful job of convincing me to take on this role.

I'll end on a "quote of the day" which I think sums up Network perfectly... "You're either too young, or too old to know.... what goes on in Network is a secret"

Annual General Meeting

- Minutes of Previous Meeting
- Accounts

2018 Annual General Meeting Minutes

BLAYDON DISTRICT AGM AND CELEBRATION EVENING

19 MARCH 2018

AT RYTON RFC

MINUTES

1) Chairman's Welcome

Graham Elder opened the meeting at 7.35 pm following which an introductory video of some highlights from the year.

2) Beaver Scout Report

Delivered by Helen Laird, DC, in line with the attached report.

3) Cub Scout Report

Delivered by Jamie Ion (YC 2015-2017), in line with the attached report.

4) Scout Report

Delivered by Howard Gilfillan (ADC (Scouts)) in line with the attached report highlighting the growth in scouting nationally.

5) Explorer Scout Report

Delivered by Colin Hurst, DESC, in line with the attached report.

6) Scout Network Report

Delivered by David Below, DSNC, in line with the attached report.

7) Official Business

a) Previous Minutes

- i) Approved
- ii) No matters arising

b) Treasurer's Report and Accounts

Presented to the District Scout Council.

c) Election of Officers

Ex-officio by virtue of their roles

- Helen Laird (DC)
- Colin Hurst (DESC)
- David Below (DSNC)
- Dan Minto (DYC)

Nominated by DC and confirmed

- Graham Elder, District Chair

Elected to specific roles

- Sharon Carr, District Secretary
- Val Pauw, District Treasurer

Other Elected Members - (maximum of 6 as per resolution passed):-

- Kit Carson, GSL Blaydon
- Brian Stubbs, GSL Chopwell
- Peter Jensen, GSL Crawcrook
- Richard Connor, GSL Ryton
- Simon Babb, ESL
- Nathan Lynn, GSL Winlaton

Nominated and approved Members

- Jamie Ion

Nominated and approved Youth members (under 25)

- Jack Harrison
- Sophie Scotland

Other formal issues were:-

Election of Jamie Ion, Jack Harrison and Sophie Scotland as our District representatives to the County Scout Council.

A reminder that, by virtue of their role, the following people are automatically County representatives : Helen Laird, Val Pauw, Dan Minto, Graham Elder, Sharon Carr.

Approval of Paul Marshall as Independent Examiner

8) District Report

Delivered by Helen Laird, DC, in line with the attached report.

9) County Commissioner's Report

Delivered by David Stokes, County Commissioner highlighting the strength of our District in terms of growth year on year, both adults and children, the quality of the programmes delivered and the action plan to tackle waiting lists etc. He highlighted that Blaydon has the highest rate of Scouts moving to Explorers in the County and is better than County average for awards obtained.

10) Award recognition and presentations

The names of peoples receiving awards this year were presented on the screen.

The following people were presented in person:-

Wood Badges – Liz Clayton and David Below

5 year service award – David Below

Chief Scout Commendation for Good Service award – Jamie Ion

DofE Bronze – Daniel Marchegiani

DofE Gold – Sarah Stokes (presented to her by David Stokes)

11) Closing Remarks

By Graham Elder, thanking everyone in the District, leaders, volunteers and parents, for all their support. Meeting concluded approximately 8.35 pm.

24 March 2018

Sharon Carr – District Secretary

Sharon.carr@blaydondistrict.org

2018 Financial Accounts

For the period 1st January 2018 – 31st December 2018

Blaydon & District Scout Association Receipts and Payments Account

For the year from	01-Jan-18	To	31-Dec-18
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Receipts and payments

	2018 Unrestricted funds £	2017 Unrestricted funds £
Receipts		
Donations, legacies and similar income		
Membership subscriptions-groups	10,013	10,257
PESU subscriptions	2,100	3,395
Less Membership subscriptions paid on (National/County/Area/District)	- 11,790	- 11,165
Net membership subscriptions retained	323	2,487
Donations	355	250
PESU	-	-
Gift Aid	436	-
Other similar income	-	-
Sub total	1,114	2,737
Grants		
Scout Association	-	-
Gateshead MBC	-	-
Sub total	-	-
Activities		
District	10,122	12,880
PESU	9,587	4,129
Switzerland	36,159	23,542
	-	-
Sub total	55,868	40,551
Sundry Income		
District	162	-
First Aid Courses	65	-
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
Sub total	227	-
Total Gross Income	57,209	43,288
Asset and investment sales, etc.	-	-
Total receipts	57,209	43,288

Blaydon & District Scout Association Receipts and Payments Account

For the year from	01-Jan-18	To	31-Dec-18
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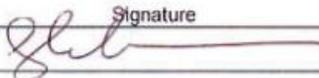
Receipts and payments

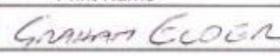
	2018 Unrestricted funds £	2017 £
Payments		
Section Accounts		
PESU	-	-
Network		488
Sub total	-	488
Activities		
District	10,230	12,031
PESU	11,618	7,029
Switzerland	52,723	6,742
Sub total	74,570	25,802
Other Expenditure		
Expenses	-	72
Training		387
Equipment	225	1,314
International Account	4	
Donation	200	
Hardship Fund	499	
Sub total	928	1,773
	-	-
Total Gross Expenditure	75,498	28,063
Asset and investment purchases, etc.	-	-
Total payments	75,498	28,063
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 18,289	15,225
Cash funds last year end	26,368	11,143
Cash funds this year end	8,079	26,368

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

	31-Dec-18	31-Dec-17
	Unrestricted funds £	Unrestricted funds £
Cash funds		
District Current Account	2,160	2,435
International Account	237	16,800
PESU Account	5,006	6,764
District Cash	443	299
PESU Cash	233	70
Total cash funds	8,079	26,368
Other monetary assets		
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
Sub total	-	-
Investment assets		
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
Sub total	-	-
Non monetary assets for charity's own use		
Equipment	4,415	4,700
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
Sub total	4,415	4,700
Liabilities	-	-

The above receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on 20th March 2019 and signed on their behalf by

Signature

Valerie O. Paw

Print Name	Chair
	
VALERIE PAW	Treasurer

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the
Blaydon & District Scout Association District Scout Council**

I report on the accounts of the District for the year ended 31/12/2018 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes set out on pages 1-3.

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 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.

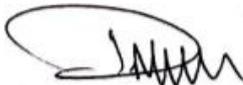
Basis of Independent Examiner's report

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:

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.



Name: Paul Marshall

Qualification: CCIBS

Address: 29 Newgate Street, Bishop Auckland, County Durham

Date: 18th March 2019

A copy of these documents, including the trustees report can all be downloaded from blaydondistrict.org.uk/about-us/governance

District Report

Delivered by Bryan Johnson, Acting District Commissioner

The decision for myself to step in to the role of DC for Blaydon District was because of necessity rather than choice. At that time there was a great deal of uncertainty, and one could say, discontentment felt by a few members from within the district. This was largely attributed to actions that was necessary and had been taken to deal with procedural failings identified at that time.

I do not wish to dwell on the issues suffice to say that they no longer exist, and we have moved on. What I will say is that as a district you are remarkably resilient, and you have been determined to move on. The district has pulled together as one and continued to deliver quality scouting to our youth members with professionalism determination.

As a district you blest with and have experienced dedicated members who have, and I am sure will continue to work hard to make Blaydon a district to be proud of.

I have had the pleasure of being invited to present numerous awards across the district, including Bronze, Silver and Gold DofE and have attend a presentation of a Queens Scout Award. That has given me great pleasure and sense of belonging. This is a clear indication that we, as a district, are working together and delivering quality valued programs and training for our youth members. This is something that you all should celebrate and be proud of.

I mentioned earlier that it was circumstances and not by choice that I came to Blaydon District as DC. Well if I had to choose a District, Blaydon would certainly be top of the list. Despite the circumstances I have been welcomed, supported and encouraged to work with you all to ensure that the district continued to operate and succeed with minimal disruption.

I would like to take the opportunity, without naming individuals, to thank you all for the support and help that you have given to me during my time with you.

I said at the Executive Meeting in September that I hoped that we could announce and appoint a new DC for the district early in the New Year.

I know that many had doubts at that time and that was understandable given the circumstance. However, it gives me great pleasure to announce that we have now appointed a new DC for Blaydon and District. An announcement of the appointment will be circulated to all district members tomorrow following notification of this executive committee this evening.

It gives me great pleasure to inform you that your new DC will be Colin Hurst.

Colin will take up the DC role on 8th April. Colin will be invested in to his new role and take over the management of Blaydon and District at the District AGM on 8th April.

I am sure that you will join in with me in congratulating Colin and give Colin the same support and encouragement as you have to myself.

Of course, this now means that I can scape and retire to my rocking chair, slippers and afternoon TV.

On a serious note I do hope that my time here has been of value to you and to the district and that you will continue to go from strength to strength.

Being a man of my word, I did also say at the September meeting that I would continue in a mentoring supportive capacity for as long as it was of value to the district. That offer still stands should your new DC and Chair feel that it would be of value. I understand that there will be a pay cut,

To finish I would like to say thank you and good luck for the future.

Bryan

Roll of Honour

Congratulations to the following youth and adult members who have achieved awards throughout 2018.

Chief Scout Bronze Award

- Jack Elder – Winlaton
- Nathan Gardner – Winlaton
- Matthew Appleton – Winlaton
- Leo Hutchinson – Winlaton
- Brayden Connor – Winlaton
- Ruth Lawson – Winlaton
- Alex Lynn – Winlaton
- Beau Wright – Winlaton
- Zach McHugh – Winlaton
- Robyn Hutson – Winlaton
- Luke Garwood – Winlaton
- Jack Innes – Winlaton

Chief Scout Silver Award

- Sam Garwood – Winlaton
- Caitlyn Murphy – Winlaton
- Luke Wilson – Winlaton
- Daniel Harrison – Winlaton
- Ellis Byrne – Winlaton
- Murray Kirsopp – Winlaton
- Caitlin Dartnell – Winlaton
- Rebecca Allen – Winlaton
- Jay Gore – Winlaton
- Tiana Webber – Winlaton
- Carl Lawson – Winlaton

Chief Scout Platinum Award

- Sian Pitkethly

Young Leader Belt

- Bethany Frazer
- Sian Pitkethly
- Baily Jamison

Chief Scout Diamond Award

- Cameron Straughan
- Isaac Tarrant
- James Harrison

Young Leader Good Service Award

- Bethany Frazer
- Cooper Britton
- Baily Jamison

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze

- Sian Pitkethly
- Matthew Lawrence
- Daniel Marchegiani
- Ailsa Holmes
- Emile Tarrant
- Matthew Heath
- Joshua Cockbain
- Lucas Straughan
- Harry Cradock
- Emma Gibson
- Lucas Gibson
- Daniel Rodrigues
- Thomas Carr
- Cooper Britton
- Ryan Laybourne
- Sophie Goodacre

Duke of Edinburgh Silver

- Bethany Frazer
- Daniel Marchegiani

Queen Scout Award

- Peter Elder
- Sarah Stokes

Adult Long Service Awards

- David Below – 5 Years

Award for Merit

- Graham Elder

Duke of Edinburgh Gold

- Sarah Stokes
- Peter Elder
- Robert Philipson
- Anna Heath
- Cameron Straughan

Adult Wood Badges

- Liz Clayton
- David Below
- Jo Botham
- Anna Woodward
- Alaya Woodward
- Andrew Roberts
- Graeme Lawson

Chief Scout Commendation for Good Service Award

- Jamie Ion

Phoenix Explorer Scout Unit are also the proud winners of the following county competitions;

- Monopoly Run 2018
- Midnight Madness 2018
- Bubble Football 2018