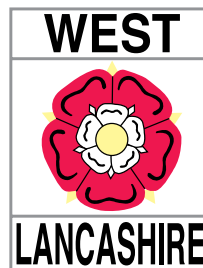
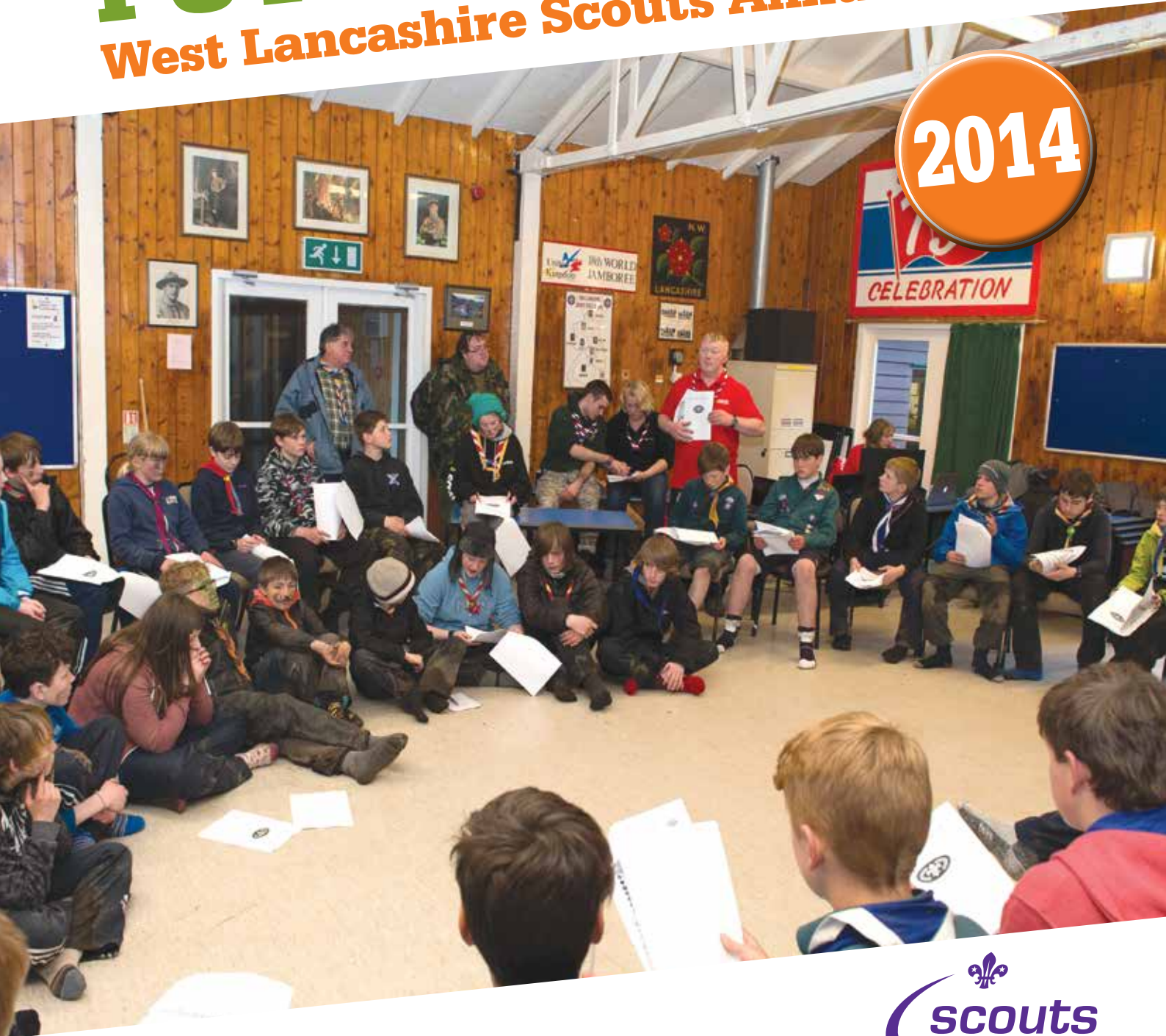


WORKING TOGETHER - BUILDING A FUTURE

West Lancashire Scouts Annual Report



2014



www.westlancsscouts.org.uk



Our President

Many of you reading this will already be part of the Scouting Movement. The great story told in this report will come as no surprise to you. I hope though that the report reaches many more outside the Movement because everyone needs to know what is being achieved in Scouting in West Lancs.

Providing a regular programme of adventurous activities for nearly 9,500 young people, having over 2,000 volunteers willing to give of their time to lead these activities, offering the opportunities for international travel both for adventure and to provide help to disadvantaged communities, the better understanding of the world that comes with the interaction with Scouts of many different cultures; all of these are great achievements. I have seen some of these achievements in visits I have made during the year and I continue to be impressed with the commitment of the Leaders and the fun which the young people get from being involved.

It was particularly satisfying to be involved in the presentations that were made to recognize the individual personal achievements, for example presenting the Chief Scout's Gold Awards. It was an extra special occasion however to be at Fulwood Barracks when Bill Beaumont as a Deputy Lieutenant of Lancashire presented the Queen's Scout Awards on behalf of Her Majesty. The number of young people achieving awards at all levels is a great tribute to the programme offered by West Lancs.

It is a story well worth telling and I am committed to continue telling it wherever I go. My attempts to hold a meeting with potential ambassadors for Scouts during the year was thwarted by the non-availability of key people, but I have great hopes that we will be able to have this meeting in the coming autumn where we can spread the great

story we have to tell. I offer my congratulations to all on another excellent year.

Gail Stanley

County President

Chairman's Foreword

On the 27th June 1974, the Earl of Derby presided over the inaugural general meeting of the West Lancashire County Scout Council in the Charter Theatre in Preston. The minutes record that Lord Derby had been appointed President by the then Chief Scout, Sir William Gladstone. The secretary of the Scout Association, Mr E.W. Hayden presented the County Commissioner's warrant to Bob Sutton on behalf of the Chief Scout, while one Bill Hargreaves was elected as the first Chairman. This year therefore holds some significance marking as it does the 40th anniversary of West Lancashire as a Scout County in its own right.

It is a great link with the past that Bill Hargreaves is still an active supporter of West Lancs attending many events as one of our Vice Presidents. Indeed he is a link with another of our anniversaries this year. He is the last surviving member of the group of people involved with setting up Waddecarr as a Scout Camp sixty years ago this year. By the time of the AGM we will have held the celebrations at Waddecarr to mark that 60th anniversary. What riches, diamonds and rubies in the same year.

But it is not just an occasion to look at the past through ruby tinted glasses. As the current County Commissioner notes in his report, this year also marks the 10th consecutive year of growth and is the year in which we attained the largest ever Membership since 1994. So it is very much a time to look forward with confidence.

The way forward was the subject of much



consultation last year leading to the publication of the Strategic Plan, Achieving Vision 2018. During this year Leaders and Managers

have been submitting their plans for implementation based on the targets and ideas contained in the plan. The work now is to monitor that implementation to make sure that we do achieve our goals. We have a great starting point, but we have ambitions to achieve even more.

This implementation includes addressing the question of whether to establish a headquarters for West Lancs Scouts and what that headquarters should contain. This is a significant decision, perhaps an opportunity for the current generation to make an investment for which future generations will celebrate anniversaries.

Studies have also been undertaken to address what investment might be needed in Waddecarr if we are to meet the ambition contained in the Strategic Plan for that site to be rated among the best Scout Camps/Activity Centres in the Country. As details of these studies are discussed it is clear that even with the money from the sale of the Great Tower lease, there could be considerable financial challenges ahead. That will test the commitment and energy of our Members and also put emphasis on the efforts called for in the plan to build partnerships and links with outside organisations.

I paid tribute in last year's report to the unseen work done by so many people which provided the background which enabled the front line programme to be delivered. It looks as if the future will continue to make demands for more unseen heroic work.

I would like this year though to pay tribute to the Leaders who deliver the programme. At the time of writing we have just held a Chief Scouts Gold award presentation at which some 86 young people received the award. That followed other award evenings during the year with 50 or more awardees. The numbers speak for themselves of the standards being achieved and the quality of the programme being delivered. And the same is true of other Sections. Great thanks are due to all our Leaders and Supporters.

Thanks are also due to David Thornton who will be standing down as County Secretary at the

AGM. David served 10 years as County Chairman and he has now done a further 10 as County Secretary. He will still continue to support the County in the organisation of events but it is timely to say a big thank you to David for his years of service.

There was one very poignant event during the year with the passing of Tom Sturgess, the son of our former Principal Officer Pete Sturgess and his wife Kate. The numbers attending the funeral showed that you don't have to have held high office or be able to list County-wide achievements in order to move and inspire people. Two others who did hold office were Peter Ellwood and David Kennington who both served the County as District Commissioners. Peter also served as District Chairman while David will be remembered for his work on the Romania Challenge Camps. Our deepest sympathies to all their families and friends.

But to finish on a more positive note, at the time of writing the final preparations are being made for the Red Rose Camp. This is an opportunity for so many young people to enjoy what is best about Scouting. The hard work which goes into preparing and running the event really sums up the dedication and spirit of the volunteers who provide Scouting in West Lancs. This is what has allowed us to reach our 40th anniversary in such good shape and is the foundation on which we can plan for continued success in the next 40. When the County Executive considered the Annual Report we started the meeting with thoughts from a US writer, Ralph Emerson. They concluded with the line that "to know that even one life has breathed easier because you have lived - this is to have succeeded." Whatever else we achieve that is the success that we should continue to strive for.

Mike Simpson
County Chairman



COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT

I confess to some nail biting back in February. Over time in this role I have spoken passionately about Scouting and my belief that it changes lives. I've been steadfast in stating that all young people should have the opportunity to participate and these beliefs underpin our approach to developing and growing our County. These are

hollow words unless backed up with results. So it won't be a surprise when I tell you how thrilled I was to see that our membership strength had grown again, and this time for the tenth year in a row. A milestone

in itself for sure, but a double celebration as we grew by 836 people. This was more than any other County in the UK this year. All eight Districts played their part, with a special mention to Chorley.

We have more than 3,000 Cubs for the first time since 2001 and within a breath of 1,000 Explorer Scouts. If you're not directly involved in this area of our work, it can be easy to fail to appreciate the enormous efforts that go into opening new Sections and supporting our existing Groups. Our membership of 11,978 is less than 400 below our highest number in 1994, and I for one am convinced that in 2015, we will surpass that number. The full census details for the last 12 years are shown on page 6. The pleasure in this flows from knowing that more young people are enjoying the adventure of Scouting and through this, are getting a better start in life.

Our membership numbers only tell part of the story. Our main ambition is to ensure our programme is excellent, shaped in partnership with young people and has a quality that helps each young person develop. I'm delighted to see the number of Chief Scout's Awards increasing across all our Sections. As I write we are in the closing weeks of an annual Nights Away competition designed to encourage more outdoor programmes. These activities are the





ones that young people remember and where they have the most fun. Plans are in hand to build on this work for the next year to support more Leaders in providing these activities.

As we continue to grow, so does our need to provide more support to our adult volunteers. Our Group Scout Leaders were complimentary about our day conference held last autumn. This is a key role, and we are so lucky in West Lancs to have so many excellent Group Scout Leaders. We are busy planning the requested follow up day for later this year to ensure we continue to support this team. One discussion held on the day was how we value more of our adults for the service they give. I'm delighted that once again West Lancs volunteers

have received more 'Good Service' awards from The Scout Association than any other County. This is great news and testament to the quality of volunteers we have here in Lancashire.

One avenue we've used to share our good news this year is

via our social media channels. This is a term few of us had heard of until recently but these have proven to be powerful communication channels for us. Over 4,000 people 'like' our Facebook page so when we share information here it reaches a significantly larger number than that. 1,500 'follow' us on Twitter and more people are using our 'Smugmug' page to source quality still images of our activities. We've recruited adult volunteers via social media, communicated with opinion-formers, and parents routinely tell us what they think of the camp their family member has just returned from! These are powerful tools and we are lucky to have a superb team of volunteers who enable so much of this. Embracing this technology in West Lancs Scouts saves us time, and ensures we are relevant.

All that remains for me to do is thank everyone for giving so much of their time and talents. All that we achieve is only made possible because of the commitment, ambition, tenacity and good humour of so many people. Thank you all, for all you've done, and as you expect me to say, for all you are about to do!

Carl Hankinson
County Commissioner



Comparison by Year

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	%change
County only people	108	178	226	226	255	196	223	211	214	187	180	217	242	7.50%
Blackpool	1228	1217	1097	1036	1041	989	1059	1065	1146	1087	1128	1034	1121	8.40%
Chorley	840	783	761	721	827	827	944	1023	1077	1077	1097	1104	1472	33.30%
Fylde	865	786	764	716	716	763	784	793	817	780	787	850	896	5.40%
Lonsdale	1289	1226	1178	1255	1286	1299	1202	1199	1336	1400	1396	1405	1487	6.00%
Ormskirk	1303	1303	1279	1343	1321	1324	1456	1472	1544	1601	1612	1620	1691	4.30%
Preston	1383	1296	1278	1249	1287	1347	1418	1462	1496	1579	1632	1645	1682	2.20%
South Ribble	1781	1729	1661	1828	1892	1928	2015	2058	2186	2203	2238	2334	2442	4.60%
Wyre	946	917	828	760	722	770	742	778	895	874	901	933	945	1.30%
District Totals	9635	9257	8846	8908	9092	9247	9620	9850	10497	10524	10791	11015	11736	7.40%
Number of Groups	178	163	158	156	154	148	147	145	150	148	148	147	150	2.00%
Beaver Scouts	2167	2175	2068	2061	2134	2131	2259	2246	2486	2528	2502	2558	2729	6.68%
Cub Scouts	3009	2730	2600	2540	2613	2540	2578	2710	2839	2810	2923	2881	3146	9.19%
Scouts	2053	1932	1818	1840	1882	1992	2124	2207	2277	2309	2297	2390	2497	4.47%
Venture Scouts	407	110	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Explorer Scouts		299	459	544	510	540	638	660	690	765	844	889	981	10.35%
Scout Network		120	131	131	165	110	106	104	110	97	67	70	69	-1.43%
Network regd elsewhere		46	37	63	64	113	98	96	64	58	92	91	83	-8.80%
Active Support	297	189	226	227	205	206	209	229	216	212	218	226	241	6.63%
Total Scout County	9742	9435	9072	9134	9347	9443	9843	10061	10711	10788	10971	11142	11978	7.51%

Training Sections



Beavers Scouts is the section for boys and girls aged 6 to 8. In West Lancashire we have 2729 Beavers in 162 Colonies

the year has to be the Global Trekker at Great Tower when we had over 1,000 Beaver Scouts and Cub Scouts undertaking activities with a global theme and caught a glimpse of the Chief Scout during his visit. The Beavers and their Leaders endured all weather systems that day but everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and went home tired but happy.

The tired and happy theme seems to run through our Fun days and Activity Badge day and I'm really pleased to see that the attendance at these keeps on growing - we had over 300 Beavers attend the superhero fun day in September

2013 also saw the launch of the County Beaver Scout Quiz which was won by a combined team from 4th Fulwood and 1st Broughton. This will now be a regular event in the Beaver calendar.

Lots of Colonies are holding their own sleepovers or attending their District sleepovers and it's great to hear about the fun they have had.

I see part of my role as supporting the Districts and their Team and have spent some time covering for some of the Assistant District Commissioners. This has been valuable as I get to see what makes a District tick and can then look at how we can support the Leaders from a County perspective. I've also supported a few of our new Colonies over the last 12 months and that's been great.

So what will the next 12 months bring? We've two new events – Beaver Splash Day and the Big

'Wow what a fantastic year the Beaver Scout Section has had – it just keeps on getting better and better!', writes **Cath Hargreaves**, Assistant County Commissioner.

The high point of

Beaver Sleepout, a County Sleepover, World Wide Waddecar and a new Commissioners Challenge to look forward to as well as new Activity Badges. I can't wait to see what the Colonies will be getting up to.



Cub Scouts is the section for boys and girls aged 8 to 10.5. In West Lancashire we have 3146 Cub Scouts in 169 Packs

I have felt, over the last few months, that I have done nothing but present Chief Scout Silver Awards!! Which is the BEST thing in the world!, enthuses **Ann-marie Fisher**. Seeing all those Cubs with their certificates, proud and smiling in their freshly

ironed uniforms is one of the most rewarding sights! And as we have increased our numbers enormously in the last year, I hope that myself and the County Cub Team of Tom, Bev and Andy will spend a lot of our time next year presenting more and more.

I have spent my first year as ACC Cubs attending events, visiting Districts and training Cub Leaders. It has been a fun year starting with the County Challenge at Waddecar, our competition testing the District winners. Our annual Chess competition was joined by a new



event, Creative Challenge, which along with the glitter base, whittling base and bushcraft base gave Cubs the chance to gain their Creative Challenge and compete a little with the other 8 Districts.

Our next event was the unforgettable 'Bear in the Air' extravaganza at Great Tower in May, when Bear Grylls visited. A lot has been said about the visit but what was more unforgettable for me was the sight of over 1000 Cubs and Beavers having a great time, despite the four season day.....all went home smiling and singing.

All in all, Cubs in West Lancashire is a fast growing Section. Our Leaders are delivering action packed programmes, which is why we have had a 9% growth in the Section in the last twelve months. And the next couple of years will see more and more fun and challenge as we look towards the Centenary of Cub Scouting.



Scouts is the section for boys and girls aged 10.5 to 14. In West Lancashire we have 2497 Scouts in 149 Troops

So well done to all Leaders and Cubs, bring on the next year! #WLCubsrock.....

For ACC **Dave Marsh**, and the Scout Section, the stand out highlight of 2013 was the visit of the Chief Scout,

Bear Grylls to the Scout County Rally camp at Waddecar. 1200 Scouts and Leaders saw Bear swoop down out of the rainy sky in a helicopter as part of his 'Bear in the Air' tour. Whilst at the Rally, Bear was able to spend time with the Scouts and encourage the Scouts taking part in many activities including climbing, canoeing and fencing.

The Bowlander hiking competition continues to be a huge success with a large number of Groups taking up the challenge to navigate unaided around the Lancashire countryside. Time and again the Scouts tell us how much they enjoy the freedom and responsibility they have whilst taking part in our activities.

Around the County, an exciting programme has taken place with notable trips to Kandersteg International Scout Centre and Guernsey and events like the Moonlight adventure hikes. Notable activities undertaken include Coasteering, abseiling down a dam and a large amount of camping and walking in the Lake District.

We are hugely proud that 265 Scouts achieved the top award in the Scout section – the Chief Scout Gold Award, an amazing 50% growth over recent



years. Presentations were held at a number of prestigious venues around the County, including Blackpool Football Club and University of Cumbria at Lancaster. We wish them all further success as they tackle the challenges presented in the Explorer and Network Sections.

Scouts themselves contributed significantly to the direction of the Section during 2013, with several Patrol Leader Forums that included topics such as future activities and the development that they would like to see at Waddecarr.

The County Team would like to thank everyone who helped the Section during 2013, but especially the many Scout Leaders all around the County who are continuing to grow the Section and offer such a great programme.

Thanks!



Explorer Scouts is the section for young people aged 14 to 18. In West Lancashire we have 981 Explorer Scouts in 57 Units. Of those 434 are in the Young Leaders scheme

Hugh Miller, ACC Explorers is excited that the Explorer Section saw continued expansion with membership nearly reaching 1000 as new Units opened in St Annes and Carleton.

The County Forum took the lead in organising 'Apocalypse', a 24

hour challenge event for the Section. Timed to coincide with 'Bear in the Air' the Explorers were delighted to meet the Chief Scout and receive encouragement from him as they undertook their survival challenges including travelling to site, building shelters, obtaining food, cooking and filtering water.

The Young Leader Scheme continued its success with Members very evident throughout the year supporting younger Sections in their local meetings and at large events. Their energy, enthusiasm and appetite to take on new challenges gives a real boost to both the Explorer Section and the Sections that they work within.

Work to ensure recognition for the efforts of Explorers through achievement of top awards





paid dividends in the year with two evenings for presentation of Platinum and Diamond awards as well as the award of three Queen's Scout Awards in the Section. The achievement of the highest award as a result of 'personal best effort' is never easy and it is wonderful to be able to celebrate the success of our Members through presentation of this award.

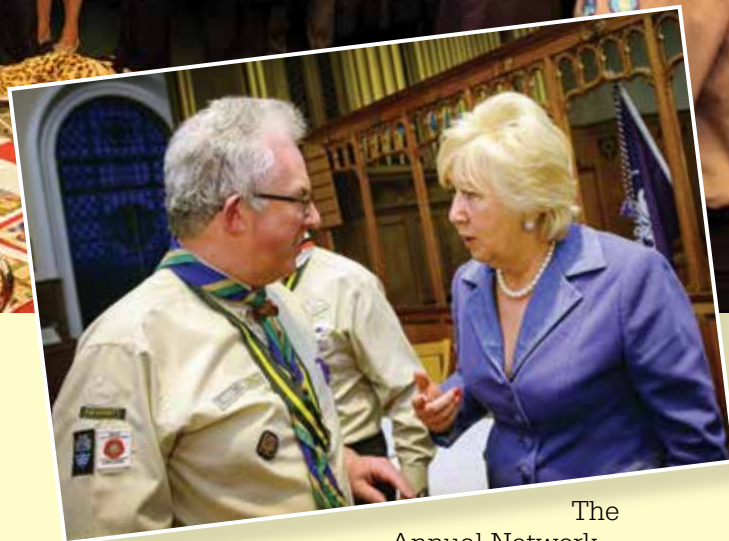
NETWORK

Members aged 18 to 25 can opt to join the Scout Network. In West Lancashire we have 69 Network members in addition to the 83 having adult appointments as leaders or assisting in Groups.

Network Commissioner **Julie Paton** says that the drive to complete the Queen's Scout Award continues to flourish within the Section as more young people strive to uphold the standard of the Award. The Network Support Team was pleased to hold the second

local Queen's Scout Award Presentation, to celebrate the achievement of the 12 Network members who received their certificate from Bill Beaumont.

The introduction of the Scouts of the World Programme and revised Explorer Belt and Queen's Scout requirements has generated a lot of interest, with many Network members signing up to complete the new challenges.



The Annual Network Gathering held over Easter at Great Tower was a huge success and noted as being one of, if not, the best to date with an increased number of Network Members from around the Country, especially West Lancashire, joining in the 4 day programme of activities.

With so many new challenges and opportunities available to Network members the Section will continue to encourage more young people to join in the adventure for themselves!





Support Sections

TRAINING

Fiona Jackson is delighted that 2013 – 2014 was again a busy year for training in the County with an additional 132 adults being awarded their Wood Badge. Congratulations to everyone on their success! We've undergone a few changes with Lizzie Goldsack taking on the role of County Safeguarding Awareness Co-ordinator, Steve Mather taking on the role of County Safety training Co-ordinator, Liz McDermott becoming Local Training Manager (LTM) for County role holders, and Marion Yardley doing a brilliant job as County Administrator and saving me from a massive headache! I'm still looking to fill a couple of vacancies but we're definitely heading in the right direction to provide the best possible support and training to our Leaders so they can deliver the highest quality of fun challenging adventures to our Members.

The stalwart efforts of the Course Directors and LTMs must be recognised - without them my role would be impossible so my thanks go out to them all, along with the teams who support them.

An exciting future lies ahead of us and to put us well on the way, the County Training Team had a weekend conference looking at how training within West Lancs will 'look'. I'm pleased to say it looks very bright indeed! Lots of work is underway linking in with the Vision 2018 plans recognising that we cannot stand still and always do what we've always done! Watch this space for revamped training experiences and encourage everyone you know to take part in the exciting training opportunities!

INTERNATIONAL

Over the last year the financial pressures appear to have taken their toll on the numbers who have been travelling abroad, with low uptake. However the insatiable appetite amongst West Lancashire Scouts for International Scouting

continued, explains **Steve Morton**, our ACC International. Due to continued unrest across North Africa, a planned visit was rearranged at short notice and 40 young people and adults enjoyed a tour of South East Europe through Greece, Macedonia, Serbia and Hungary, utilising connections through the Scout Movement in each Country. Members of West Lancashire also visited Belgium, Sweden, Romania, Italy and Austria.

A highlight of the year 2013/14 has to be a project by a group of Explorers and Network members from South Ribble to Uganda, led by a 19 year old Network Member. Whilst in Uganda they built a well to provide a village with clean water, worked in an orphanage and went on Safari. The nature





of this visit and its outcome is a credit to what Scouting methodology and worldwide links can achieve.

For those who wanted an international experience at home, many Members took part in international camps in Kent, Cornwall and Auchengillan. More locally Members of all Sections took part in international and global awareness activities laid on by the Global Programme Team at their respective County Camps and fun days, each supported by NGOs (non-government organisations) such as ShelterBox. With the launch of many international expeditions for 2015/16 and promotion of Red Rose 2014, the International Night was another resounding success.

ACTIVITIES TEAM

West Lancashire Scouts continues to offer a wider range of adventurous activities to our young people and also to our adults, ranging from nights away experiences to significant adventures within the UK and abroad. In 2013 we again ran the very successful Alpine expeditions and also continued to grow and promote our local programme orientated activities.

Paul Sanday believes that the key to the success of the activities is culture of “can do” and utilising the Scouting framework as an enabler, with additional rigour added where uncertainty existed. Another important element that enables activities to happen is the growing

number of permitted Leaders. This is where a real difference is made at the Sections, Troops, Packs and Colonies enabling local Leaders to offer a truly diverse and adventurous programme. The permitted Leaders can only grow sustainable when we have growth in our County Assessors, not just in our traditional activities, but also in widening the field in the activities that we can offer in West Lancs. We have added rowing, mountain biking and ‘big boat’ sailing to our portfolio, and we will support these activities to enable them to become an integral part of our activity programme.

Our Activity Groups are transitioning into Scout Active Support Units, which will hopefully provide more interest and excitement in their respective activities. These provide a focal point for their activity with the aims of:

- Growing and maintaining skills
- Generating trained Leaders to support the Scouting programme.
- Linkage to National Governing Bodies to ensure concurrency with evolving techniques and standards

Annual activities such as Bowlander and



Mountain Activity Challenge continue to provide young people with the opportunity to undertake an expedition whilst being remotely supervised.

Thanks must go to all the activity Leaders and to the Section Leaders who are the key to success in enabling young people to get out and partake in exciting, adventurous and safe activities within Scouting.

SCOUT ACTIVE SUPPORT UNIT – SUPPORTING THE VISION

There's no doubt that West Lancs Active Support Unit Members have joined the journey and are on the trail delivering masses of support for Vision 2018, explains **Ian Lonsdale**, Active Support Manager.

Many have been actively involved in bringing local plans to life and supporting the launch within the Districts. Our specialist units continue to deliver programme adventure for many young people and whilst the aims of the Scout Association's Vision 2018 will undoubtedly, feel challenging to some, let's not forget that rising to the challenge is what we do best!

Our team of Active Support Managers are fully involved in the Vision 2018 challenge and have developed their own plan to make sure Active Support Unit activities are focussed on helping Districts, Sections and the wider County deliver a positive experience for our young people, Leaders and those who support us from without.

We continually strive to revise our list of ways in which we can support, and grow our membership to be more inclusive and diverse, explore different and cutting edge ways to reach out to our Members and ask them to share their experience, time and commitment to help shape our Scouting provision.

On most of the County events you're never far from an Active Supporter; some may be front and centre, others supporting quietly from behind. For many, their support comes before and after an event or maybe raising funds (and the Scouting profile) within the community, not forgetting of course the fantastic social events in which many participate so enthusiastically.

**West Lancs Scout Active Support –
Supporting the West Lancs vision for even
better Scouting!**

SAFEGUARDING

2013 was another busy year with Safeguarding sessions being delivered to adult volunteers throughout West Lancashire, thereby ensuring that they continue to receive appropriate training at least every five years.

Liaising with the Gilwell Safeguarding team, work has been ongoing to establish



Safeguarding training within West Lancashire as a County led provision. This will ensure consistency of the training delivered and provide a flexible and responsive training provision across the whole of West Lancashire. To deliver this, a team of approved Safeguarding Trainers has been appointed who will deliver Safeguarding training to our adult volunteers and 'Thinkuknow' awareness sessions to our young people. Thanks must be given to our Safeguarding Trainers who have given up even more of their valuable time to undertake the additional training required in order to become an 'approved' trainer.

In the past 12 months, a number of the 'Thinkuknow' sessions have been successfully delivered to young people in various Sections ranging from Beavers to Explorers, and we are keen to encourage more Sections to incorporate these into their programmes. These sessions work well as a stand-alone event or when incorporated into the staged IT activity badge so please let us know if you would like us to deliver to your Group.

During 2014, we will be looking to further establish our Safeguarding training team and at the way Safeguarding awareness and training is delivered to both our adults and our young Leaders; this will ensure that our training remains appropriate, relevant and current, thereby supporting and protecting our Scouting family.

Liz Goldsack

County Safeguarding Awareness Co-ordinator

MAJOR EVENTS GROUP (MEG)

Dick Griffiths tells us that the Major Events Group continues to be the conscience of the County, monitoring and ensuring that no County overseas event, or large UK based event, incurs any financial or reputational risk to the County. Within this, MEG



generates and monitors advice, policies and procedures to ensure that the County maintains its annually audited conformity with British Standard 8848 (Specification for the provision of



visits, fieldwork, expeditions, and adventurous activities, outside the United Kingdom). This provides a degree of assurance to the County, and parents/guardians of participants, that such events are undertaken to the safest possible standards.

MEG met on 5 occasions during the year to monitor the finalisation of the 2012/13 projects, the implementation of the five big 2013 overseas projects (Ardennes Adventure, Oetzal Alps Mountaineering (Austria), Wilderness 2013 (Canoeing in Sweden), iSEEurope (a big Scouting adventure from Greece, through Macedonia and Serbia to Hungary), and overseeing the peer-led Bulera Uganda Well Project on behalf of South Ribble District.

Oversight of Red Rose 2014 at the Westmorland Show Ground this coming August comes within the purview of MEG. The appointed chair of the management group had to step down due to work pressures and Nick Kashmir was asked to head up the team that now includes Simon McGlen as Camp Chief. Excellent progress has been made and nearly 2,500 participants, Leaders and staff will turn up on July 26th for a most excellent week of fun and adventure. This is nearly double the numbers for the last Red Rose International in 2010.

The next year will see no less than 10 expeditions travelling overseas in the name of West Lancs Scout County. MEG has recruited and/or had approved the Leader Teams for most of them and plans are becoming well advanced with participants recruited – nearly 240 in total. These trips are Norway Training

Expedition (in preparation for Greenland, Summer 2014), Go Paris (Scouts, Autumn 2014), Nepal (Explorers & younger Network, Xmas 2014), Ardennes Adventure (Explorers, Spring 2015), NE Greenland (Any Member over 16, Summer 2015), Explorer Belt Hungary (Older Explorers & Network, Summer 2015), Project Cambodia Community Service (Older Explorers & Network, Summer 2015), Wilderness Adventure Sweden (Summer 2015) – and of course the 23rd World Jamboree in Japan, together with a large contingent travelling out to help on the Management and International Service Teams (Summer 2015).

Such wonderful opportunities.

MEG helps to provide support and confidence, together with an annual overseas preparation day and an opportunity for Remote Medical Support First Aid Training every two years. Overall, with the drive provided by Steve Morton (ACC International) and the support of the Major Events Group, as a County we provide an amazing array of overseas opportunities for our people, young and old.

Dick Griffiths
Chair MEG

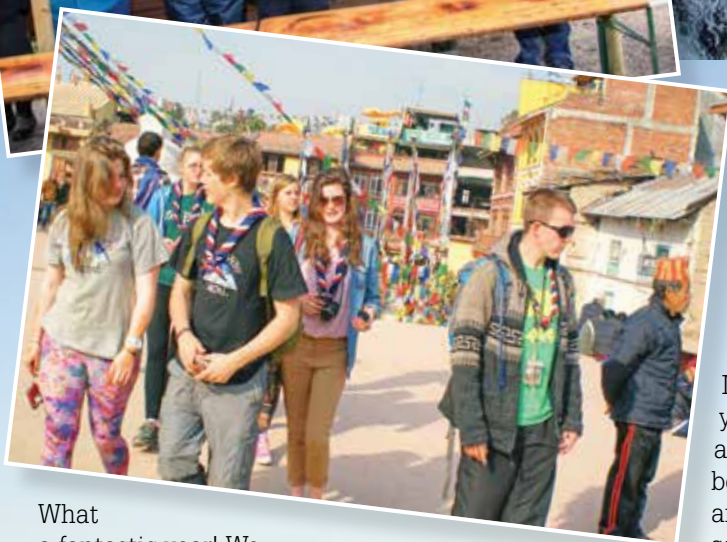
STRATEGIC PLANNING – AN UPDATE

The County's Strategic Plan, Achieving Vision 2018, was launched in all eight Districts during the autumn of 2013 to assist them with the creation of their Plans. These have now been tailored to the requirements of each District and each County Committee and Working Group. So it is now OUR plan – not 'The County's' plan! Initial local plans shared at the County Team Weekend last January, have recently been updated, and will next have a progress review in January 2015.

Dick Griffiths
Vision 2018



Development



What a fantastic year! We saw a massive growth of 836 members to reach 11,978 members at census, an increase of 7.5% and the largest growth of any Scout County in the UK.

Many of our Groups and Units have taken on the challenge to offer Scouting to even more young people and this is reflected across the County with 95 Scout Groups growing at census this year. In addition, we've seen a number of new Groups at Grange Park in Blackpool, Clayton Green and Mayfield School in Chorley during 2013; and Preston Central, Rossall in Wyre, Ansdell in Fylde, Astley Village in Chorley and Mereside in Blackpool so far in 2014.

A special mention must go to Chorley District who saw an incredible increase of 368 Members this year with nearly all Groups growing their numbers. Buckshaw Village Scout Group who were brand new at Census 2013 saw an increase of 81 members this year as they increased their provision across all Sections. 44th Ormskirk (Tarleton) grew by 36

members with the addition of a second Beaver Colony and second Cub Pack; 1st Thornton Cleveleys and 1st Stalmine in Wyre also grew by 33 Members and 30 Members respectively. A big WELL DONE to you all.

While the majority of our Groups grew, there were still a third of Groups who lost Members this year. If you notice a dip in your numbers, make sure you mention it and see what support is available to help you. It may be that you just need someone who can visit a school and tell the children about Scouting or perhaps, some support to help you make your programme more adventurous. There is lots of advice and help available across the County, let us know what you need.

There was a slight dip in our waiting list numbers, but still we have more than 300 young people waiting to join Scouting. Some of these will have now joined Scouting with the opening of new provision in various locations, but some are still waiting to get involved. All of our Districts have enough vacancies across their Groups to easily accommodate these young people, but as ever there is still more we can do to ensure all those children and young people who want to join, are able to, and we continue to look at ways to provide more places. What could your Group do? Remember support is available from the County Development Officers and your District Team who can tell you more about tried and tested methods other Groups have used and even do some of the work for you!

In June, our County Development Officers, Andy



Marsden and Barbara Hughes completed the second 3 year term of the County Development Project. Their dedication and commitment have been integral to the successes we have seen as a County, and their knowledge and judgement is a welcome support to our GSLs and DCs. The County Executive have reviewed the benefits of the work they do, the current pipeline of potential projects and the goals we hope to achieve as we work towards our Vision 2018. Taking all this into consideration they have approved the permanent employment of our 2



Development Officers. A new set of goals has been agreed for the next 3 years and their work will continue to be assessed against the needs of the County on a regular basis.

The work Andy and Barbara do, continues to be complemented by our District Teams who do a fantastic job supporting our newly recruited adults and helping them gain confidence in their role. In addition, our Districts continue to develop and work on their own projects, which enables us to offer support to more Groups and grow more quickly.

So much has been achieved during this project term, here is a brief overview of what we have achieved.

What we said we'd do - growth...

- Open 40 new youth Sections across the County, including 2 New Groups; filling gaps in the 6 - 14 provision with 6 new Beaver Colonies and 12 new Scout Troops; opening 9 new Explorer Units; and creating 9 second Sections at existing Groups.

What we did...

- Opened 57 new Sections in the last 3 years.

How we did it...

- Opened 7 new Scout Groups, total of 13 new sections.
- Opened 13 new Sections where there was a gap in the 6 - 14 provision, including 7 Beaver Colonies, 2 Cub Packs and 4 Scout Troops;
- Opened 10 new Explorer Scout Units;
- Opened 21 second Sections where demand was high to join a Scout Group and we had a waiting list, including 10 Beaver Colonies; 10 Cub Packs; and 1 Scout Troop.

What we said we'd do - support...

- Provide support to 50 Scout Groups where support is vital for the Group to grow, including ensuring there is an effective Group Management structure in place (GSL and Executive Committee); the Group has a development plan; and supporting the Group in increasing the number of young people.

What we did...

- 50 Groups and Districts received help and support from the County Development Officers to enable them to grow.

How we did it...

- Supported Districts to recruit effective Managers and Supporters, including Group Scout Leaders and District Explorer Scout Commissioners;
- Worked with Groups to help them create a Development Plan and identify what support they needed;
- Supported Groups with creating and strengthening their Executive Committee to allow Leaders to focus on providing the programme for the young people. Parent's meetings, family fun nights and clear role descriptions all helped people understand how they could get involved.

- Increased the number of adult volunteers working with our youth section through offering flexible Scouting, parents' rotas, student volunteering placements; and strengthening links with colleges and universities, other local voluntary organisations and promoting opportunities on a variety of internet sites – have all helped reach new adult volunteers.

- Boosted youth membership numbers by running school recruitment sessions followed by activity taster sessions.

What we said we'd do - recruitment...

- Recruit 200 new adults into West Lancs Scouts.

What we did...

- 342 new adult volunteers are working in Groups and Units across the County as a result of the County Development Project; plus 11 new Young Leaders;

- An additional 13 new adults are in the final stages of applying for a variety of roles.

How we did it...

- Recruited 176 Leaders and 18 Section Assistants;

- Recruited 35 members for Group Executive Committees;

- Recruited 113 Occasional Helpers.

What we said we'd do - legacy...

- Design and share resources; maintain a store of promotional material;

- Build relationships with Group Scout Leaders and District Development Teams;

- Revise the content of the Training development modules and share methods, resources and best practice.

What we did...

- Expanded how we offer our adults development support and ideas;

- Increased the practical resources available to support our adults with their recruitment and development needs.

How we did it...

- Refreshed the content of the Growing the Movement Training for Managers and Supporters to share best practice and promote available resources. Offered stand-alone training for Section Leaders for Growing the Movement;

- Provided support at GSL's meetings, County GSL Day and 'Skills and Chills' events across all Districts, sharing knowledge, running training sessions and flagging new resources;

- Raised awareness of and promoted HQ recruitment resources and events such as Scout Community Week and the Brand Centre Recruitment materials.

What we said we'd do - strategy...

- Develop a number of strategic projects including recruiting ex-Members (adult and youth); recruiting parents; Scouting in Independent and Special Needs Schools; handling of Joining Enquiries referred from HQ; create a partnership with Rotary Club District 1190 that benefits local Scouting.

What we did...

- Researched best practice and developed an approach for a number of topics.

- Worked in partnership with Rotary Club District 1190 to

promote Scouting and identify opportunities for support.

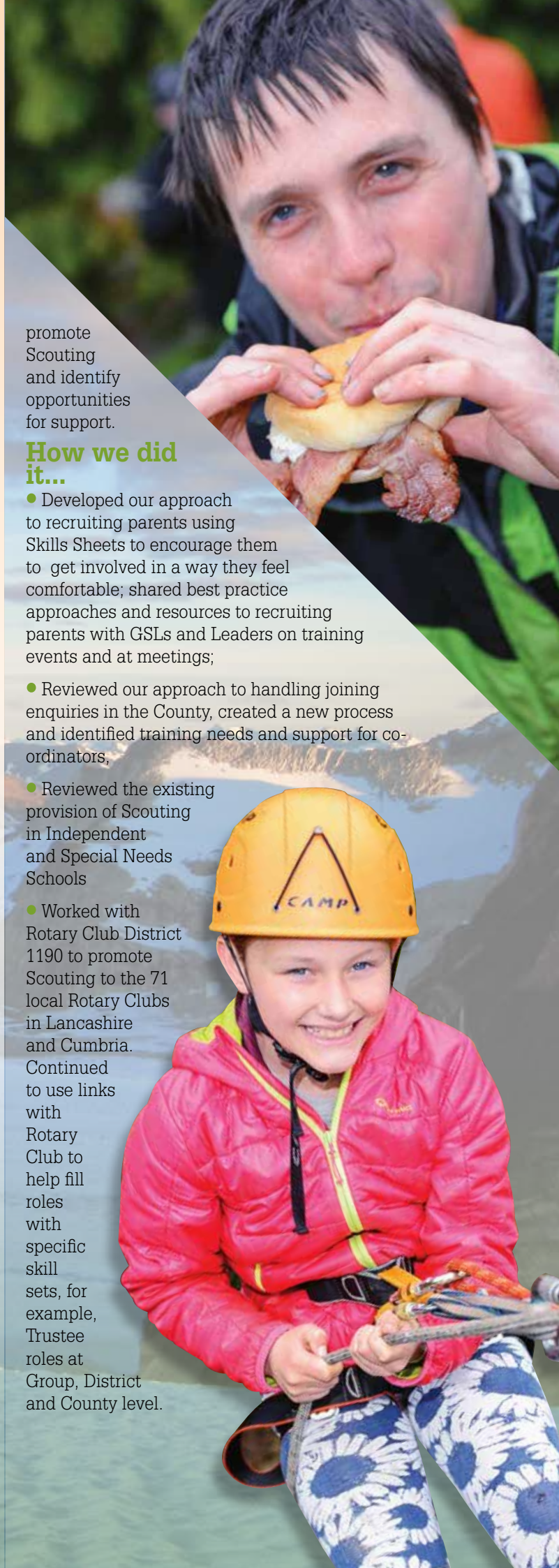
How we did it...

- Developed our approach to recruiting parents using Skills Sheets to encourage them to get involved in a way they feel comfortable; shared best practice approaches and resources to recruiting parents with GSLs and Leaders on training events and at meetings;

- Reviewed our approach to handling joining enquiries in the County, created a new process and identified training needs and support for co-ordinators,

- Reviewed the existing provision of Scouting in Independent and Special Needs Schools


- Worked with Rotary Club District 1190 to promote Scouting to the 71 local Rotary Clubs in Lancashire and Cumbria. Continued to use links with Rotary Club to help fill roles with specific skill sets, for example, Trustee roles at Group, District and County level.



Looking Ahead...

Over the next 12 months, we stand a real chance of growing as a County and becoming the biggest we have ever been. There is still much to do if we are to achieve this, but we know that we have many opportunities to grow at both existing Groups and in new areas. The next term of the County Development project will deliver a challenging target of 50 new Sections over 3 years, and work is already underway to deliver this. We will also continue to support our existing Groups and help them grow by providing guidance and direct support where we can and adult recruitment will also remain a key focus of our work.

However, our Vision and plan for growth will



only be achieved by everyone playing their part, this could be as simple as providing an exciting programme of activities, making a new adult feel welcome and part of the team, or giving support to some of our new volunteers. We offer the most amazing and life changing experiences to our Members from camps and adventurous activities; to Gang Shows and Community Projects; and International Expeditions that are both fun and challenging. We are making a big difference in the lives of many young people and mustn't under-estimate the effect we have on their development. This is only possible through the dedication, commitment and enthusiasm you show each week, we couldn't do it without you, and I thank you all for everything you do.

Astley Village Project:

Astley Village in Chorley has long been identified as an area where we had a natural gap in our Scouting provision, but with only 1 local school there was a question as to whether a Group here could be sustainable.

Earlier this year, Andy Marsden received a call from Jayne at Astley & Buckshaw Children's Centre, which is based at Buckshaw Primary School. Jayne was looking to find a local Scout Group for a child at the school, but also mentioned she had previously been a Leader at Euxton Methodist Scout Group. During the call, Andy had a chat with her to find out whether she thought Scouting could be a possibility at Astley Village. A couple of hours later, Jayne was back on the phone following a conversation with Karen, Headteacher, who was very receptive to the idea of hosting a Scout Group at the school. After a conversation with Chris, District Commissioner, Andy arranged to meet with Karen and plans for a taster session were agreed.

A very successful taster session was held with support from Leaders across Chorley District, during which Andy spoke with the parents about what support would be needed to get a new Group up and running. Over the next few weeks a number of volunteers came forward, including a Teaching Assistant from the school, and a brand new Beaver Colony and Cub Pack opened in June.

The new Scout Group attracts children from the school, some of whom live in Astley Village and some who travel in from the surrounding areas. The school and Children's Centre have played a key role in getting the Group established from helping to promote the taster session and launch of the new Sections; ensuring rent is affordable for the new Group; and looking at ways to help financially support Members who come from lower income families.

The Group is already thriving with 26 Beavers and 19 Cubs attending regularly. Plans are now being made for the launch of the Scout Troop in January 2015.



53rd Blackpool (Mereseide) Project:

Scouting finished in the Mereseide area of Blackpool approximately 14 years ago following the retirement of a number of Leaders. The District identified Mereseide as an area where they would like to reinstate Scouting in 2012, but following a taster session the lack of volunteers meant things didn't progress at that time. 2 years on and Victoria, District Commissioner decided to try again.

Mereseide is an area that over recent years has faced many challenges with low income, lack of local activities for the children and a limited sense of community. However, with a number of community groups starting to grow and an increasing support from the local council, police and Blackpool Football Club, things are starting to change.

With support from Barbara Hughes work began to look at options for a meeting place for an initial taster session. This led to a conversation with James, Community Development Officer with Blackpool Coastal Housing, who manage a large portion of the rented housing stock in the area. He had drawn together a number of people from the various local community groups to create the Mereseide Network and was able to share contacts. After attending one of the meetings, we were fortunate to have made contact with the local councillor, the manager of Mereseide Children's Centre, local community police officers and other

community groups keen to support the plan for a Scout Group in the area.

Mereseide Link Up, based in the old Methodist Church, offered us a place to meet on a donation basis, because the new Scout Group would be for the local community. So a taster session was held with over 30 families coming along to find out more about Scouting. While the young people took part in a range of activities with Leaders and Explorers from across the District, Barbara spoke with the parents, shared information and films about Scouting, before discussing how a Group could be run locally if sufficient volunteers could be identified.

Over the next couple of weeks, Barbara spoke with all interested volunteers and established a team, including a Group Scout Leader, 9 Leaders and a couple of Occasional Helpers. With support from the District Team the Group opened in July with Beavers, Cubs and Scouts and will run through the summer period. Word of mouth already means numbers are increasing and we are looking forward to watching their journey as a new Scout Group in the coming months.



Waddecarr Management Committee (WMC)

Last year I reported on the small team working on a strategic plan for the future of Waddecarr. This year has seen significant progress, following a competitive selection process we were pleased to appoint Cassidy & Ashton to undertake a feasibility study and prepare an outline master-plan for the development of Waddecarr. Initial outline proposals have been presented to the both the County Executive and County Teams and further consultations will take place. All who have seen these initial proposals for the development of Waddecarr have been impressed



and excited by them. At the moment we have focussed on the main buildings and accommodation and can now begin to look at activity provision and the other areas at Waddecarr.

Work is now underway to integrate these plans with the County's overall strategic vision; to ensure that Waddecarr will support the County's strategy and that we target the developments that will benefit our Members.

Waddecarr is sixty years old in 2014 and we plan to celebrate this in a number of ways, so it is great to be planning developments that will ensure Waddecarr is at the forefront of the County's programme for another 60 years!

After serving on the various management committees that have managed our activity centres for something like 25 years, Phil Howarth decided to stand down and his expertise and wise counsel will be missed. We wish him well in his other County roles!

Finally I must thank the members of the committee who give their time and expertise to help our movement.

Jonathan Abbey
Chair

Waddecar Centre Manager

I often have the pleasure of introducing someone new to Waddecar. Their response is almost invariably 'Wow, this place has so much potential.'

Whilst Waddecar is wonderful exactly as it is, we are not short on ambition for the Centre, nor are we blind to the need to up-date and constantly review how we serve the requirements of our stakeholders. Our latest partners in the pursuit of Waddecar's potential are the architects firm Cassidy & Ashton. Using the feedback gathered from the County, a small team has been working with C&A to create a Development Study which includes substantial new buildings, refurbishment of existing facilities and the creation of a central focal area which complements our beautiful surroundings. These plans will be made available to view on site and on-line.

Besides putting in the groundwork for future projects, it has been another year of progress at Waddecar, some visible to our guests, but also much work behind the scenes.

We have introduced a new booking system for the camp site which has been a massive step forward for our administration team. Besides keeping our bookings in good order, the system will allow us to extract meaningful data at the end of the season so we can get a really accurate picture of our user base.

Waddecar's provision of Activities has been developing in a variety of ways. We have done extensive research to review and renew our Operating Procedures, with the aim to preserve safety without compromising on accessibility. The Rifle Range has undergone a re-vamp and the Pirates Adventure Trail has been completely replaced. For the benefit of the Centre and the wider Scout County, Waddecar hosted the brand new Archery GB Instructors course this spring,



for West Lancashire Leaders.

Over the last year Badger's Den, our site shop, has undergone a transformation. The bright and colourful Den is packed with toys, sweets, chocolate, drinks, branded souvenirs and gifts. Oh, and of course the delicious local ice-creams!

The most visible advancement has been the refreshing of our logo. This has led to new Waddecar Team uniform for volunteers and staff, the fabulous signs which have gone up around site, a raft of classy Waddecar stationery and the branded products now available in the shop.

Last, and far from least, this is a very special year for Waddecar: our 60th Anniversary! To celebrate 60 years past and the next 60 to come, we are opening to friends, old and new, for a Family Fun day on the 30th of August, so everyone can enjoy the best of Waddecar.

Charity King
Centre Manager





General Purposes Committee

The General Purposes Committee continues to support the Executive in areas of work which do not fit into other Committees' area of responsibility,

Our Asset register is adjusted on a regular basis which gives us an accurate tool to catalogue our activity and camping equipment and a large variety of other items including IT equipment. The register is a great help to us when estimating the insurance cover and of course life expectancy of the equipment, my grateful thanks to Dave King our Asset manager for this great work.

Our insurance requirements are ably looked after by our Insurance Advisor Colin Monks, this last year the Committee Members agreed to seek an alternative broker which resulted in a useful reduction in premium for an enhanced cover, my thanks to Colin for his expertise in this field.

The Safety (buildings) Advisor is Ian Holland

who is always willing to give advice to Districts and Groups who may need advice from time to time on matters relating to statutory obligations e.g. fire assessments for buildings and general structural issues. Thanks to Ian for this important area of work.

Our Archive Advisor Michael Loomes continues to keep us informed of the way our important documents are kept for future reference, thanks Michael.

Unfortunately through the year Peter Willingham (IT Advisor) and Anne Clark (Administration Advisor) for a variety of reasons have felt that they needed to stand down from their respective roles, my sincere thanks go to both of them for their excellent work over the years.

George Lowe

Chair General Purposes.





Media, Marketing & Communications

We have maintained some great Press coverage of events throughout the year, relying on a very small team of media people throughout the County.

However, bigger things are on the horizon, we've split the internal and external parts of our team to operate with an Assistant County Commissioner responsible for each strand, whilst all working together as a larger team. By the time you read this, our plans should be almost complete and we'll have an effective team covering many of our fantastic events around the world and sharing those with both our Members and families and a wider, external audience.

Historically, Scouting has never been great at shouting about what we do, but we have now learned that letting others know about the great work we do can be very beneficial, and so a key part of our plans for Vision 2018 is about making best use of our efforts to maximise the benefit of our work by spreading the word far and wide.

Pete Sturgess
County Media Team



Treasurers Report

The start of the year saw the launch of The Strategic Plan of West Lancashire Scouts titled "Vision 2018" which was finalised and approved by the County Executive at the end of the last financial year with the official launch taking place in June 2013. The event was well-attended and was subsequently presented to all Districts. In parallel to the County's development plans the Waddecar Management Committee has also been looking at ways to improve the facilities at Waddecar. As a result, a local firm of architects, Cassidy & Ashton, were appointed earlier this year as professional advisors and are currently looking at options for the first stage of the development plans together with the



Waddecar Management Committee. The County Executive also accepted a proposal in December 2013 that a working group be formed to look at the feasibility of a County Headquarters. The group will look at the options and make a recommendation in summer 2014.

The County Development Officers continue to be a valuable County resource. Our Membership has increased yet again and we are really pleased to report that we had the biggest increase in numbers in the Country. This is an amazing achievement and reflects the outstanding work that our Development Officers do. We are now in the second three year term and the County Development Officers are now funded wholly by West Lancashire County Scout Council.

As the fastest growing County in the Country we are fortunate to have a team of dedicated volunteers and advisors and without their support we would not be able to even consider these ambitious projects. All these exciting

plans will incur significant costs and a lot of work will be required to secure appropriate funding, both from our own and external resources. The reserves policy is currently being reviewed and it is anticipated that the new reserves policy will be formally adopted during the latter part of 2014 or early 2015.

As in previous years we have once again received significant grants from various sources including Lancashire County Council. The Trustees would like to express their thanks to them and all the other grant donors as they are providing the necessary funding to maintain our current activity levels.

In line with our triennial valuation policy our property portfolio was formally revalued in March 2014. The properties have increased in value and are now valued at £902,500 compared to a valuation of £845,000 in March 2011. Difficult trading conditions have had an effect on our property yield over the last few years with one of the properties being empty for a considerable period of time. We are pleased to report that just after the year end this property has been let for a 3 year term. With interest rates at an all-time historic low and dividend yields likely to remain suppressed for some time the current rental income being achieved of some £40,293 (2013: £39,047) before agents commission and costs of upkeep gives, in the opinion of the trustees, a very useful income stream in the current economic climate

At the close of the financial year the portfolio of listed investments was valued at £826,976 (2013 £920,517) and in addition our investment managers held cash for future dealing of £191,986. Following a detailed review we made the decision to change our investment managers and appointed Brooks MacDonald at the end of the financial year. The Trustees have asked the investment managers to consider social, environmental and ethical criteria when managing the portfolio. They would not wish to hold any investments that knowingly could be to the detriment of Scouting, although they are mindful that their prime duty is a financial one.

The Trustees value the contribution made to the Charity by both its paid and volunteer staff and considers that good communications and relationships with its people and its members to be very important and makes relevant information available to all. The success of the Charity can only be put down to its people, uniformed and non-uniformed Leaders, supporters and of course its young people. THANK YOU ALL

Cath Joyce
County Treasurer

Summary Financial Statement

Summarised Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2014

	2014 £	2013 £
Incoming resources		
Donations, grants, and contributions	23,937	30,393
Activity centres income	177,275	152,061
Surplus on membership subscriptions	4,151	4,467
County and international events	33,220	121,972
Scouting activities, training & sections	106,355	90,869
Other income	2,892	3,964
Rental and investment income	61,133	63,189
Interest	33,883	35,948
	<u>442,846</u>	<u>502,863</u>
Resources expended		
Staff costs	114,822	106,999
Costs of generating funds	20,410	12,527
Activity centres operating costs	88,960	79,671
Depreciation of assets	28,689	20,107
County and international events	32,588	121,428
World Scout Youth Event and other events	12,044	12,000
Scouting activities, training & sections	127,173	110,893
Management, administration and other costs	57,103	50,664
	<u>481,789</u>	<u>514,289</u>
Net outgoing resources for the year	(38,943)	(11,426)
Gains on investment properties	57,500	-
Gains on listed investments	12,369	111,830
	<u>30,926</u>	<u>100,404</u>
Net movement in funds	30,926	100,404
Total funds brought forward	3,722,843	3,622,439
	<u>3,753,769</u>	<u>3,722,843</u>
Total funds carried forward	3,753,769	3,722,843

Summarised Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2014

	2014 £	2013 £
Fixed assets (inc rental properties)	1,396,062	1,354,337
Listed investments and share dealing funds	1,018,962	920,517
	<u>2,415,024</u>	<u>2,274,854</u>
Current assets	1,458,721	1,550,728
Less: Current liabilities	(119,976)	(102,739)
Net current assets	1,338,745	1,447,989
Net assets	<u>3,753,769</u>	<u>3,722,843</u>
Funds		
General	3,733,170	3,703,898
Designated	20,599	18,945
	<u>3,753,769</u>	<u>3,722,843</u>

Statement of the Trustees

The Trustees report and financial statements were approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf on 18 July 2014. They will be submitted to the Charity Commission after the Annual General Meeting.

The full Trustees' report, audit report and financial statements, which contain the full details of the financial affairs of the charity as at 31 March 2014, may be obtained from:

The County Secretary
West Lancashire County Scout Council
Waddecarr Scout Activity Centre
Snape Rake Lane, Goosnargh
Preston, Lancashire, PR3 2EU

Signed on behalf of the Trustees


CA Joyce FCCA
County Treasurer


MA Simpson
County Chair

Independent Auditor's Report

We have examined the charity's summary financial statement for the year ended 31 March 2014. This report is made solely to the trustees, as a body, in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report or the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of the trustees and auditor

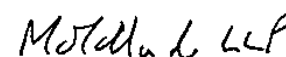
The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees report and annual financial statements. Our responsibility is to report to you our opinion on the consistency of the summary financial statement with the annual financial statements.

Basis of Opinion

We conducted our work in accordance with bulletin 2008/03 "The auditors' statement on Summary Financial Statements" issued by the Auditing Practices Board for use in the UK. Our report on the charity's full annual financial statements describes the basis of our opinion on those financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion the summary financial statement is consistent with the trustees report and annual financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2014 and complies with the applicable requirements of the Charities Act 2011 and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.


McMillan & Co LLP
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor
28 Eaton Avenue, Matrix Office Park, Buckshaw
Village, Chorley, Lancashire, PR7 7NA

ADULT AWARDS SINCE LAST REPORT

ST GEORGE'S DAY AWARDS - APRIL 2014

SILVER WOLF

Christine Fitton Blackpool

BAR TO THE SILVER ACORN

Irene Wheatley	Blackpool	Philip Wheatley	Blackpool
John Johnson	Chorley	Doreen Worden	Preston
Brian Quinn	South Ribble	Alan Shipway	Wyre

SILVER ACORN

David Allen	Blackpool	Russell Catlow	Blackpool
Brian Pendlebury	Blackpool	Agnes Wilson	Blackpool
Simon Kularatne	Blackpool	Sylvia Johns	Blackpool
Stephen Peters	Blackpool	Patricia Edwards	Blackpool
Steve Morton	County	John Swarbrick	Fylde
Neil Barnes	Fylde	John Buckley	Lonsdale
Howard Greenwood	Lonsdale	John Allwright	Ormskirk
Christine Charlton	Ormskirk	Linda Kirby	Ormskirk
Barbara Quinn	South Ribble	Alison Bamber	South Ribble

OTHER AWARDS SINCE LAST REPORT

MEDAL FOR MERITORIOUS CONDUCT

George Haworth Cub Scout South Ribble

BAR TO THE AWARD FOR MERIT

Philip Mather	Blackpool	Brian Paley	Blackpool
Patricia Spink	Blackpool	Kathleen Crosby	Blackpool
Lynne Whitehead	Chorley	Ian Lonsdale	County
Bill King	County	Ian Flavell	Ormskirk
Peter Hall	Ormskirk	Andrew Acklam	Preston
Ruth Taylor	Preston	John Topping	South Ribble
Gillian Rhodes	Wyre	Philip Robinson	Wyre

AWARD FOR MERIT

Elizabeth Abbott	Blackpool	Helen Bennett	Blackpool
Helen Joyce	Blackpool	Stephen Joyce	Blackpool
Mark Stubbs	Blackpool	Elizabeth Westhead	Blackpool
Alan Westhead	Blackpool	Jean Fishwick	Chorley
Janet Twinn	Chorley	Ann-marie Fisher	County
Mark Harrison	County	Barbara Hughes	County

Pauline Worthington	County	Margaret Jackson	Preston
Gwen Quayle	Preston	Susan Rowett	Preston
Lesley Thomas	Preston	Samantha Burke	South Ribble
Roy Squire	South Ribble	Adrian Worthington	South Ribble
Donald Ashworth	Wyre	Caroline Dugdale	Wyre
Lesley Fegan	Wyre	Lynne Taberner	Wyre
David Simpson	Wyre		

CHIEF SCOUTS COMMENDATION FOR GOOD SERVICE

Alison Kirby	Chorley	Carol Leadbetter	Chorley
Ann Monkton	Chorley	Sarah Moore	Chorley
Ian Aspden	County	Mark Charlton	County
Emma Hardacre	County	Charisa Harvey	County
Geoffrey Lyons	County	Paul Sanday	County
Timothy Stewart	County	Christopher Bainbridge	Lonsdale
Andrew Blenkinship	Lonsdale	Susan Blenkinship	Lonsdale
Graeme Bradshaw	Lonsdale	Katherine Bradshaw	Lonsdale
Jane Lyde	Lonsdale	Martin Lyde	Lonsdale
Janet Mechie	Lonsdale	Adrian Moeckell	Lonsdale
Jennifer Moore	Lonsdale	Janet Sargent	Lonsdale
David Saul	Lonsdale	Amanda Seddon	Lonsdale
Bridget Worsnop	Lonsdale	Catherine Charnock	Ormskirk
Dawn Heptinstall	Ormskirk	Michelle Durney	Ormskirk
Ian Gadsden	Ormskirk	Stephen Hannah	Ormskirk
Stephen Roberts	Ormskirk	Victoria Beeley	Ormskirk
Helen Wade	Ormskirk	Mark Laidler	Ormskirk
Brian Cox	Ormskirk	Christopher Horsfall	Ormskirk
David Jones	Ormskirk	Janice Kellie	Ormskirk
Johanna Nevill	Ormskirk	John Read	Ormskirk
Madeleine Roberts	Ormskirk	Martin Freeman	Ormskirk
Sheila Prescott	Ormskirk	Stephanie Phillips	Ormskirk
Nicola Smith	Ormskirk	Simon Voller	Ormskirk
Mark Billington	Preston	Mark Colley	Preston
Rebecca McNeill	Preston	May Pascoe	Preston
Elizabeth Royle	South Ribble	Daren Sumner	South Ribble
Jacqueline Sherrington	South Ribble	Lee McNulty	South Ribble
Gary Jackson	South Ribble	Taras Daneliuk	South Ribble
June Holt	South Ribble	Elisabeth Hunter	South Ribble
Christopher Teague	South Ribble	Gary Hibbert	South Ribble
John Mackey	South Ribble	Jonathan Hopton	South Ribble
Gareth Bates	Wyre	Jon Minshull	Wyre
Mike King	Wyre	Paul McCann	Wyre
David Holmes	Wyre	Christopher McConnachie	Wyre

County President

Mrs Gail Stanley MBE, JP, DL

County Vice Presidents

Mr Roy Fisher MBE, JP, DL

Mrs Jean Frew

Mr Tom Frew

Mr Bill Hargreaves

Mr Michael Loomes

Mr Colin Ovenden MBE

Mr Bernard Pendlebury

Mr Eric Thompson Dip Arch, RIBA

Mr Brian Woodburn

Mr Rex Wolstenholme

County Trustees

Mr Carl Hankinson

Mr Mike Simpson

Dr Tony Andrews

Mr David Thornton

Mrs Cath Joyce

Mr Brendan Drury

Mr Max Lowe

Mr Jonathan Abbey

Mr George Lowe

Miss Julie Paton

Mr Robert Jenkinson

Miss Jennifer Critch

Mr Steve Williamson

Dr Chris Lomas

Mr Mike Smith

Mr Terry Bond

Mr Craig Dewar

Mrs Sue Goldstraw

Mr Chris Nevill

Mrs Judith Jamieson

Mrs Susan Sullivan

Mr David Simpson

County Commissioner & Chair of the County Team

County Chairman

Deputy County Chairman

County Secretary

County Treasurer

Chair - Finance & Fund Raising Committee (to 12th September 2013)

Chair - Finance & Fund Raising Committee (from 12th September 2013)

Chair - Waddecarr Management Committee

Chair - General Purposes Committee

County Scout Network Commissioner

Scout Network Representative

Scout Network Representative

County Trustee for Blackpool

County Trustee for Chorley

County Trustee for Fylde

County Trustee for Lonsdale (to 12th September 2013)

County Trustee for Lonsdale (from 12th September 2013)

County Trustee for Ormskirk (to 12th September 2013)

County Trustee for Ormskirk (from 12th September 2013)

County Trustee for Preston

County Trustee for South Ribble

County Trustee for Wyre

County Officials

Mr George Lowe

Mr Paul Harris

Mr Dick Griffiths

Deputy County Commissioner

Deputy County Commissioner

Deputy County Commissioner

County Employees

Sandra Sowerbutts

Charity King

Gary Pendlebury

Barbara Hughes

Andy Marsden

County Admin /Finance Manager

Waddecarr Centre Manager

Waddecarr Maintenance Officer

County Development Officer

County Development Officer

Other Officials

Mr Chris Harris

Ms Michelle Swain

Regional Commissioner for North West England

Regional Development Manager for North West England

Current County Personnel – as at 1st September 2014

VOLUNTEERS

COUNTY OFFICIALS & COMMISSIONERS

County Commissioner	Carl Hankinson	County Chairman	Mike Simpson
Deputy County Commissioner	George Lowe	Deputy County Chairman	Tony Andrews
Deputy County Commissioner	Dick Griffiths	County Secretary	David Thornton
Deputy County Commissioner	Paul Harris	County Treasurer	Cath Joyce

ASSISTANT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (ACC)

ACC Beaver Scouts	Cath Hargreaves	ACC External Communications	Matthew Harwood
ACC Cub Scouts	Ann-marie Fisher	ACC Internal Communications	Pete Sturgess
ACC Scouts	Dave Marsh	ACC Expeditions & Projects	Dick Griffiths
ACC Explorer Scouts	Hugh Miller	County-wide Training Manager	Fiona Jackson
Scout Network Commissioner	Julie Paton	Local Training Manager (County)	Liz McDermott
Scout Active Support Manager	Ian Lonsdale	ACC Adventurous Activities	Paul Sanday
ACC International	Steve Morton	ACC Scouting Activities	contact CC

COUNTY ACTIVITIES TEAM

Activity Registrar	Ash Green	Nights Away	Neil Roberts
Activity Permit Scheme	Stuart Dean	Orienteering	Bob Nash
Air Activities	Ian Grace	Pioneering	Matt Spencer
Land Activities (mountaineering)	Geoff Lyons	Paddle Sports	Stuart Dean
Archery	Phil Fairclough	Sail Sports	Kevin Day
Caving	Rachel Platt	Shooting	Leon Pascoe
Climbing / Abseiling / Walking	Geoff Lyons	Snow Sports	Dick Griffiths
Fencing	TBC	Survival Skills	Alan Cornforth
Mountain Biking	Pete Willingham	Technology	Steve Williamson

COUNTY ADVISORS

Asset Manager	David King	Fundraising	John Lawson
Safety in Scouting Coordinator	Steve Mather	Grants	Mark Harrison
Buildings Safety	Ian Holland	Information Technology	TBC
Safeguarding	Liz Goldsack	Insurance	Colin Monks
Marketing Advisor	Andy Marsden	Branding	Ryan McKeown
Internal Communications	Chris Gibson	Photography	Arthur Garlick

COUNTY SCOUTERS

Beaver Scouts	Fiona Jackson	Explorer Scouts	Simon McGlen
Cub Scouts	Michael Tax		Judith Jamieson
	Andy Walton	Scout Network	Sophie Cairns
	Bev McMullen		Emma Hardacre
	Tom Gibson		Janice Lee
Scouts	Nick Kasimir		Jenny McDonald
	Alan Venn		Phil Horn
		Duke of Edinburgh's Award	Bob Aspland

COUNTY COMMITTEES – CHAIR & DEPUTY

County Executive	Mike Simpson	County Team	Carl Hankinson
	Tony Andrews	Waddecarr Management	Jonathan Abbey
Finance & Fund Raising	Max Lowe		Phil Haworth
General Purposes	George Lowe	Appointments	Jim Hunter
Staffing	Mike Simpson	Programme & Training	Carl Hankinson
Joint Scout Counties	Chris Creelman	Major Events	Dick Griffiths
World Scout Youth Events	Richard Charnock	Awards	Roger Mason

COUNTY ADMINISTRATORS

County Archivist	Michael Loomes	County Administrator	Anne Clark
Training Course Administrator	Marion Yardley	County Administrator	Maggie King

West Lancashire County Scout Council

Legal and Administrative Details

Registered Charity Number	521712
Tax Exemption Number	X89058
Governing Instrument	The Policy, Organisation and Rules of the Scout Association by authority of a Royal Charter dated 4th January 1912.
Aims	<p>The Aim of the 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.</p> <p>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.</p>

Principal Bankers

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc
97 Fishergate, PRESTON, Lancashire PR1 2DP

Investment Managers

Brooks McDonald
1 Marsden Street, Manchester M2 1HW

Property Advisors

Charles Parker, Bennett & Co
17/18 Cannon Street, PRESTON, Lancashire PR1 3NR

Legal Advisors

Napthen Solicitors
7 Winckley Square, PRESTON, Lancashire PR1 3JD

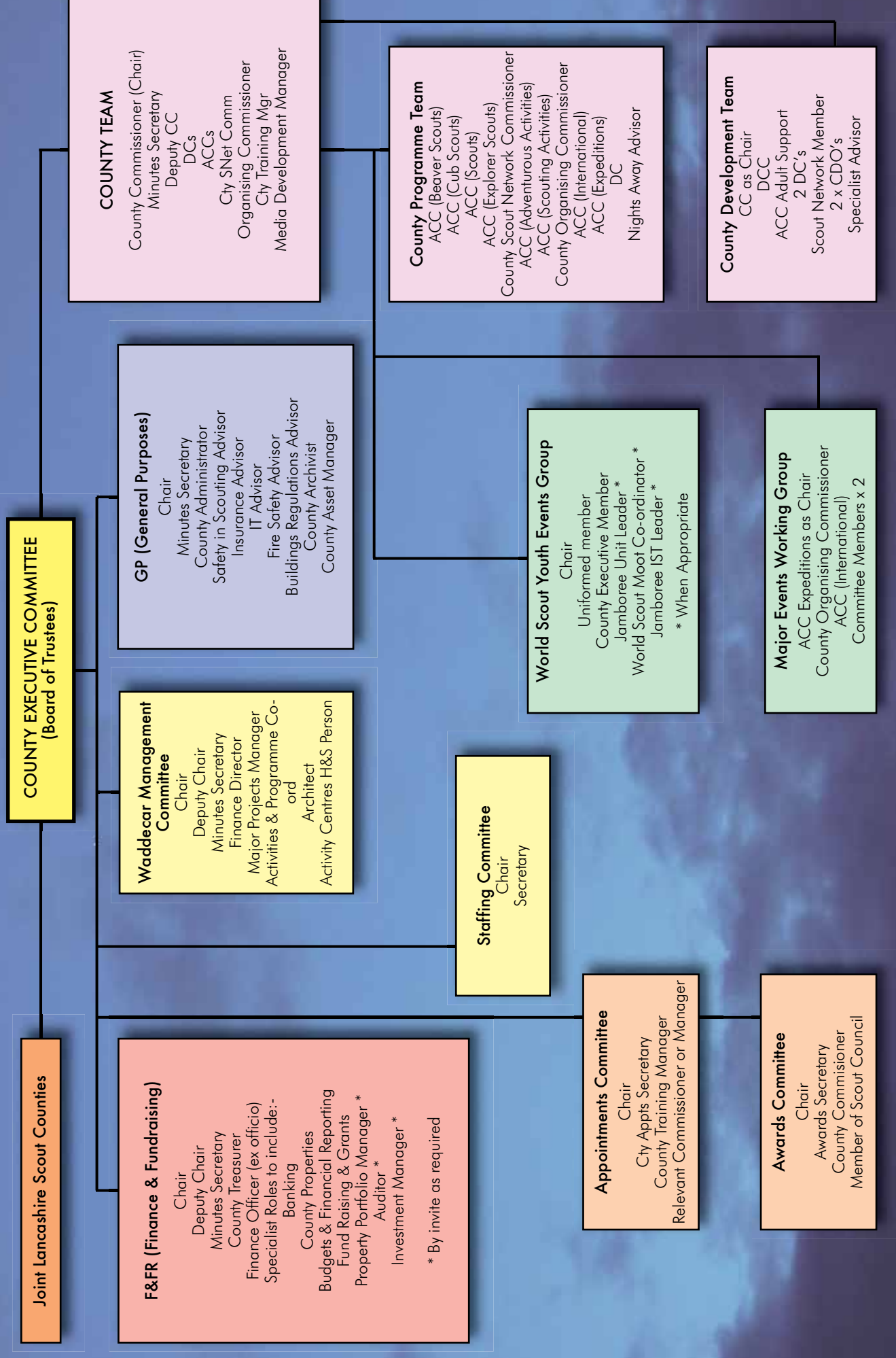
Auditors

McMillan & Co
28 Eaton Avenue, Matrix Office Park, Buckshaw Village, CHORLEY, Lancashire PR7 7NA

Principal Address

West Lancashire County Scout Office
Waddecar Scout Camp, Snape Rake Lane, Goosnargh, PRESTON PR3 2EU
Email: countyoffice@westlancsscouts.org.uk
Web site: www.westlancsscouts.org.uk
Phone: 01995 61336 Fax: 01995 61978

West Lancashire County Scout Council Committee Structure



WHAT PEOPLE REALLY THINK OF SCOUTING



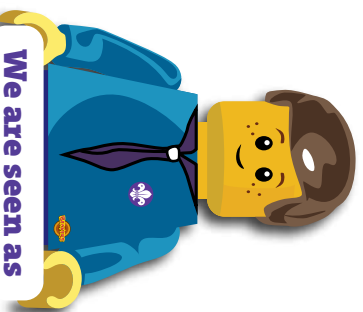
There is strong support for informal education

79%



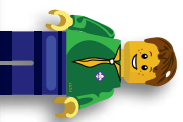
believe it's very important for children to have structured out of school activities

We have high awareness



We are seen as

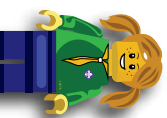
- Inspiring
- Practical
- Challenging
- Reputable
- Positive
- Friendly
- Established
- Trustworthy
- Welcoming



70% of the public say we are about challenging activities and citizenship



Scouting was the most frequently named out of school activity (17%) for young people



We are seen as the UK's most practical charity, 14% above average

70%

Trusted



68%

trust Scouting mostly or a great deal

Our potential support is growing (time and money)



44%

of the general public would like their children to join the Scouts

39%

of 18-25 year olds would consider supporting Scouting

34%

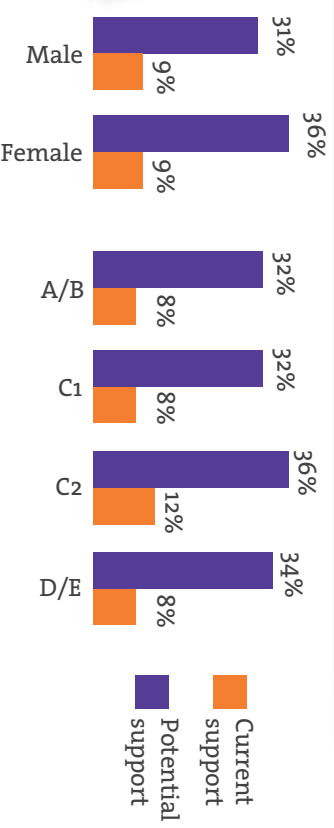
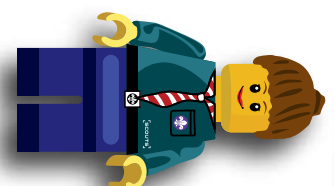
More people would consider supporting us in 2013 (34%) than in 2012 (33%)

74%

of the public believe we provide a safe place for young people to have fun and adventure



Our biggest potential support is from 18-25 year olds, girls, women and from C2 and D/E social grades



Perception of our biggest challenges

59%

1. Shortage of adult volunteers

53%

2. Competition from other activities

52%

3. Concerns about child protection

42%

4. Costs for parents

37%

5. Time-poor parents