

Annual report and financial statements 2022-23



Scouts
Cheshire

Annual report and financial statements 2022-23

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Welcome from our Chair

2022 has been an encouraging and positive year. We started the year with the country locked down and still in Covid. Fortunately, the enthusiasm of your County Commissioner and the whole team of Scouting in Cheshire throughout that difficult time brought us through and we were able to hit the ground running when restrictions were lifted. We still carried forward the legacy which had to be dealt with, in particular the subsidy of 50% of the annual subscription, which reduced our income for 2022.

At the same time the major event for Cheshire of Chamboree was given the green light and underwritten for a sum of £100,000. That figure was necessary, but the actual amount called for was less.

Previous Chamborees have run at a surplus and in the County Treasurer's report you will see that our reserves are strong and that has allowed us to take the financial hit from Covid and Chamboree in our stride. It also underlines the importance of a strong reserve policy.

There was a drop in membership over Covid, but it was not as bad as expected and this year saw continued growth as you will see in your County Commissioner's report for 2022.

The campsites remain our biggest asset and also liability and we are fortunate to have Philip Cox to have steered this along.

As well as the everyday running of both sites the campsites Committee have had to look at the major financial issues of 'access' and 'sewage' at Forest and the lease renewal at Tatton. All of these are ongoing and again are backed by our County funds.

Luke Thornton has introduced new accounting and record keeping systems which has already started

to make a difference in the running and planning of the campsites.

Your Trustee Board met six times, every other month last year, with standard agenda items which were addressed as necessary: (Youth Forum; Appointments; Risk Register; Transformation and Change; Equity Diversity and Inclusion and Safe Scouting).

The two principal sub committees; Finance and Activity Centres, met and reported back to the Trustee Board for each meeting.

In difficult times your Executive Committee has worked hard and well, and I thank each member for their valuable efforts. Along with all Charities we have to fall in line as Trustees and with governance and this has brought about a change in the responsibilities and duties of the Trustee Board which will be reflected in the composition of its members to be elected for this year and onwards.

I welcome this change and trust this will place Scouting in Cheshire on a continued and sound footing for the years ahead. I thank all scouters for all their efforts over the last year and for the years to come.



Peter Mather TD
Chair of the Trustee Board

Helping more young people gain skills for life

This year will be one to remember – and this time, for all the right reasons.

I'm proud to say we saw the biggest increase in youth membership in eighty years, and this year we have recorded a further 5% growth in youth membership, which is 457 more young people. We have also grown the number of volunteers by 3%, with 93 new front-line leaders. There are now 12,486 young people and adult volunteers taking part in Scouts in Cheshire.

Against our inclusivity objectives we are pleased that 4% of our youth members are from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic backgrounds, which matches the recent Office for National Statistics 2021 Census for Cheshire. However, we would like to attract more adult volunteers from BAME backgrounds, where we have only 0.5%.

Since the launch of Squirrels for 4-6 year-olds last year, we already have 136 Squirrels across 10 Dreys, with 8 more Dreys opening this year.

We relaunched Cheshire Hike in the Spring with record numbers taking part, and this year we were over-subscribed, with over 700 Scouts and Guides taking part, collectively walking 27,000km over 2 days. Cheshire Hike requires preparation, organisation, teamwork, resilience, and personal determination to get to the end. This is an event that truly delivers skills for life.

We hosted our "out of this world" International Jamboree in the Summer, with our 4,500 Scouts and Guides attending from around the world. You can read more in a special report on page 8.

We remembered our Patron, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II with great fondness. 120 Scouts aged 18-25 from across the UK volunteered to support everyone paying their respects at the laying-in-state, including Grace Wheeler from Mersey Weaver District and Lucy Everall of South West Cheshire District.

Cheshire Scouts were encouraged to 'Dream Big, Aim High and Never Give Up' by Steve Hill MBE at our annual awards ceremony in November, with over 400 Scouts completing their 'top awards', including 9 Queen's Scouts. Leaders too were recognised, with a special award being made by the High Sheriff of Cheshire, Jeannie France-Hayhurst, to the adult volunteers who organised Chamboree. We were delighted that our new County President and Lord-Lieutenant of Cheshire Lady Redmond could join us in celebrating their success.

So far this year 4 Cheshire Scouts have already gained their King's Scout Award. I was proud to join 15 Queen's and King's Scouts and their parents at the first ever King's Scout St. George's Day Parade at Windsor Castle.

The journey has continued for the 72 young people representing Cheshire at the 25th World Scout Jamboree in Korea 2023, and the 62 young people taking part in Cheshire Scout's Explorer Belt 2023, the challenge of a lifetime for 16-25 year-olds in The Netherlands. With their training nearly complete, we look forward to sending them off on their adventures this Summer.

Cheshire Scouts are resurging after the setbacks of the pandemic. We couldn't have achieved all this without the incredible efforts of our amazing volunteer team across Cheshire, committed to a single shared goal: to help more young people gain skills for life. That's our 'north star,' and we succeed when we never lose sight of it.

The task ahead is to return to pre-pandemic membership levels, and welcome in the 2,096 young people on our waiting lists. The key to this, as ever, is to attract more adult volunteers. But even more important is improving our volunteering experience – making volunteering easier and more enjoyable for everyone and giving a warmer welcome.

I'd like to take this opportunity to say a big 'thank you' for supporting Cheshire Scouts during a fantastic year for our movement. We've bounced back from the pandemic, providing skills for life for hundreds more young people. Let's keep up the momentum and make this next year an even better year.



Dave Hopley
County Lead Volunteer
(County Commissioner)

Our purpose and method

Cheshire Scouts actively engages and supports young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

In partnership with adults, young people take part in fun indoor and outdoor activities. They learn by doing, by sharing in spiritual reflection and by taking responsibility. They make choices, undertake new and challenging activities, and they live their Scout Promise.

Cheshire Scout's Trustees have a duty to report on our public benefit in this Annual Report. We've assessed our aims, activities and charitable objectives, which are to contribute to the development of young people in achieving their full potential as individuals, as responsible citizens, and as members of their local, national and international communities. We believe that we've met the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria for both the advancement of education, and the advancement of citizenship and community development.

Cheshire Scouts follows 2 key principles set by the Commission with regard to public benefit:

1. Identifiable benefit

The way in which we help young people in their personal development and empowers them to make a positive contribution to society. This benefit is directly linked to the purpose of Cheshire Scouts.

2. Public benefit

Cheshire Scouts is a county wide movement, open to young people aged 6-25 and adults who are willing to make the Scout Promise. People in areas of deprivation are able to benefit from our programme; while we charge a subscription to our members, access to our benefits aren't constrained by a member's ability to pay. There are arrangements to waive subscriptions and other costs for those who face financial hardship, so that young people aren't excluded from Scouts on purely financial grounds.

The benefits of Scouts are further demonstrated throughout this report.

Vision and strategic objectives

Our vision for the future

In our Skills for Life Strategy, we aimed to prepare more young people with skills for life, supported by amazing leaders delivering an inspiring programme. We talked about growing, being more inclusive, being shaped by young people and making a bigger impact in our communities.

Skills for Life

Our Plan to prepare better futures

2018-2025

Our vision

By 2025, we'll have prepared more young people with skills for life, supported by amazing leaders delivering an inspiring programme.

We'll be growing, more inclusive, shaped by young people and making a bigger impact in our communities.

Our mission

Scouting actively engages and supports young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

Our values

We act with care, respect, integrity, cooperation, exploring our own and others' beliefs.

Our goals

By delivering this plan, we'll achieve the following goals against our four objectives:

Growth

Inclusivity

Youth Shaped

Community Impact

Our three pillars of work

To support the movement to achieve these objectives, we will focus on three pillars of work:

Programme

A fun, enjoyable, high quality programme consistently delivered and supported by simple (digital) tools.

People

More, well trained, better supported and motivated adult volunteers, and more young people from diverse backgrounds.

Perception

Scouts is understood, more visible, trusted, respected and widely seen as playing a key role in society today.

Three pillars of work

Programme

January 2022 began with an application process for the Explorer Belt Programme. We received an astounding 96 applications for the programme which targets 16-25 year olds. The Explorer Belt Award is one of the highest achievable for Explorer Scouts and Network members. After a unique self-selection process, and 18 months of planning and training, 62 participants and 9 Mentors will be travelling to Europe; covering Belgium, The Netherlands and Germany in August 2023.

February saw the launch of the ADCs Forum. This is the Programme Team's opportunity to meet with and connect with all ADCs and their equivalents from across all Districts of Cheshire. It was particularly successful due to the network-style of event which gives volunteers the chance to meet with others to share best practise and bounce ideas. Having completed a successful pilot of the BTEC Level 2 programme, we operated another course and held the very first Adventure Day at Forest Camp. This course allows young people to gain an external qualification with recognition of their teamwork and personal development in Scouts.

We also continued to receive many more submissions from our bespoke and unique Young Leader Online Training Hub.

As the weather improved, Scouting headed outside, not least the return of the popular Cubs Handicraft Competition. After District heats, the final was hotly contested at Forest Camp with the winning team from Mid Cheshire designing a clay and paper model inspired by climate and the environment. To encourage a positive return to Scouting after the Coronavirus pandemic, some of the

previous County initiatives have had a little update! The Beaver County Quiz has transformed neatly into a practical skills challenge event. The 2022 winners were from Holmes Chapel in Alderley District, having competed against other District Beaver teams in active challenges and skills. The previously titled 'Lord Derby Competition' for Scouts is also having a revamp and revival in 2023!

April 2022 marked the 35th Birthday of Beaver Scouts – Happy Birthday Beavers! To mark the occasion, ACC Ruth Clemson designed and promoted 35 challenges for Beavers to achieve throughout the birthday year. A lot of the activities created opportunities for gaining valuable badges.

2022 was the year of Chamboree with a huge number of young people attending – even Squirrels for the first time!

Over 400 young people across Cheshire gained their Chief Scout Award, YouShape Award or Young Leader Belt with 73 Bronze, 27 Silver and 11 Gold Duke of Edinburgh Awards achieved. We are also in awe of the 9 Queen's Scout Award recipients who achieved the highest top award. Cheshire Scouts are committed to progressive and sustainable growth of opportunities, and achievements. The Programme Team are proud to be delivering programmes and initiatives for all sections coupled with knowledgeable and committed support to Districts, Groups and Units on the ground. We look forward to the next 12 months.

People

In 2022, the wonderful Cheshire leaders have achieved 8 new Hill Walking permits for Terrain 1 and Terrain 2. On top of this we have just awarded 3 new Lead Top Rope Climbing Permits and 1 Supervise Permit. This is superb after the reduced training through the

pandemic. The Climbing Team hosted a competition for Cubs, Scouts, and Explorers to test their climbing skills at Awesome Walls in Stockport. Tim Owen and Richard Johnson have stepped up as Team County Training Manager as we transition from Training to Learning, a huge 'thank you' goes to Debbie Phillips for her commitment and dedication to the role over the past thirteen years, and in particular her inspirational leadership during the pandemic. Thank you too to the 30 volunteers from Cheshire and Waddacar campsites that came together for a joint working weekend in January – together, they resurfaced the driveway, carpark, and tracks with 140 tons of new gravel, improved drainage by installing new drains, replaced fence lines, and much more across the campsite. The Annual County Awards Dinner and Presentation of St. George's Day Awards was held at the Village Hotel in Warrington, the Roll of Honour can be found on page 15.

Perception

Cheshire Scouts hosted 2 community activity days at our Tatton Park Activity Centre. One supported the integration of Ukrainian refugees and their host families, with a special outdoor Scout programme delivered by our volunteers. The second invited 160 fostered children and their families, again to take part in Scouting activities on site. We have also supported Pride events, launched an 'Adopt a Plot' campaign to boost our presence in the community and help Groups deliver the community impact badge. We've also been active promoting Scouting at several recruitment events including Warrington Jobs & Apprenticeship Fair, Cheshire Show, and have generated excellent PR from events such as Chamboree 2022.

An 'Out of This World' Week at Chamboree

Chamboree has been an amazing experience, that shows what a powerful force for good Scouting and Guiding can be for young people. After nearly 2 years of lockdown, it has been absolutely amazing for us all to be able to come together with people from around the world, and share stories, develop skills and make new friends.

Over 4,500 Scouts, Guides and their volunteer leaders took part in a week-long, action-packed camping experience at the Royal Cheshire Showground.

Chamboree has been 4 years in the making, and young people have been at the heart of delivering it. From choosing the Space-based theme and activities on offer, to taking part on stage within the Chamboree X entertainments team, or helping to lead activities for younger participants. Scouts and Guides have helped make the event a massive success.

We've also been lucky to have over 1,000 adult volunteers, who have worked tirelessly to give the youngsters an amazing experience that they will remember for a lifetime. We're so proud and grateful to them all.

A truly International Experience

The event welcomed Scouts and Guides from around the world, with groups from The Netherlands, Germany, Norway, Poland, and Israel amongst others. There was also a special welcome for Daniel, a 12 year-old from Ukraine who was hosted by 10th Perthshire Scouts in Scotland.

Highlights

As well as enabling many youngsters to experience camping for the first time, a huge range of space-themed activities were on offer to educate and entertain them, across 9 planetary zones.

On **Mercury**, campers travelled to Manchester for the day, where they could experience a silent adventure tour, have a beatboxing or photography lesson, or visit one of the city's many museums and other attractions.

Venus was an active zone where participants could try less common sports such as fencing, volleyball, rowing, and grass Ski-ing, as well as watch a show in the circus tent.

Planet Earth offered a chance to learn more about our ecosystems, people, and how we live, work and socialise. Mealworms and crickets were on offer in the bug cafe and pizzas could be made and cooked using sustainable fuels. The "sea of tranquility" was a quiet space to reflect and consider life through the lense of multi-faiths, as well as have team members on hand to lend a "listening ear". The zone also featured an escape room challenge and a sauna!

On **Mars** numerous target sports were on offer including archery, rifle shooting, laser tag and axe throwing. There was also room for exhilarating hovercraft rides.

Saturn was the zero-gravity zone, where participants could bounce their way around the many giant obstacle courses, vertical drop slide, bungee slide or brave the dunk tank!

Jupiter was the planet for adrenaline junkies, with Rock Climbing, Bouldering, Zip Lining, Caving, a BMX Pump Track, Slacklining, and Quad biking all being extremely popular.

Uranus was the STEM zone where Chambonauts could 3D print a Typhoon aircraft, hold a 6-billion-year-old meteorite, or learn about toxic waste clean-up.

And Neptune was a fun space to learn a new skill, such as changing a tyre, wiring a plug, or building flat-pack furniture.

Evening entertainment was provided in the International Space Station themed main arena. The Chamboree X team of younger Scout Leaders hosted a variety of fun events, including the infectious camp dances, 80's game shows, lip sync battles, discos, and the infamous Gunge Tank! A mixture of live bands including Boomin, Control-C, Channy and an Ed Sheeran tribute act also got the audience dancing from a festival-sized stage with professional sound and lighting. A talent show gave dancers and singers a chance to perform in front of a large crowd. And the Chester Scouts Gang Show team entertained with their three-part comedy romp 'The Story of Chambo,' with music from The Rocky Horror Picture Show providing the necessary 'jump to the left' to shift everyone through time and space. Events were also captured by the Chamboree TV team, who presented regular camp news and weather, daily highlights from the activity zones, and live action from the main stage onto the arena's giant video screens.

Scouts Toby, Archie, Seb, Laura and Jess from 4th Lymm Scouts all really enjoyed their time at Chamboree. Jess said 'It's been great to be able to try new things like fencing and climbing.' Laura said 'my favourite was the inflatables zone where you could try the wrecking ball and drop slide as well as the dunk tank.' Seb added 'There's so many fun activities to try so if you don't like one thing, you can just try another.' 'Going to Manchester and trying beatboxing and the silent disco were also really cool,' said Toby. Charlotte 17, an Explorer from Chester and District, and a

member of the Chamboree X team explained 'Scouting has provided me with so many brilliant opportunities, and I've met so many people at Chamboree from across the world. It's like having a family away from home that you can do amazing things with. And being on stage, and seeing everyone's faces smiling and enjoying themselves is just the best feeling.'

The Journey towards Chamboree

The journey towards Chamboree 2022 began in February 2019 working with Cheshire Scout's Youth Forum on the development of the 'Out of this world' Space theme. 12 months into our planning cycle and who could have predicted:

- 1) that a global pandemic would ravage the events industry and the organising of Chamboree, and
- 2) question the certainty of being able to deliver Chamboree in 2022 at all.

On 24 February 2022 all Covid restrictions lifted... And Russia invaded the Ukraine.

Chamboree is a half a million-pound budget event and in addition to the impacts of Covid-19, Chamboree has been affected by a change in red diesel legislation, 'Brexit', the fuel crisis, and the cost-of-living crisis, all contributing to increased cost pressures and decreased income against forecast.

Throughout, we as a Core Team, with the support of Cheshire Scouts' Trustees have kept our focus and effort on delivering the best ever Chamboree in 2022 because it was important. It was important to come back together after a challenging two years, to reconnect, to reenergise, to help us remember why we do this (Scouting), and to ensure that we deliver skills for life for even more young people. The legacy of Chamboree 2022 has been even more important to us, than the event itself.

As Camp Chief I am immensely proud of the International Service Team (IST) who've delivered the most amazing experience to over 4,500 young people; building (in record time!), taking down and servicing the small town we built at the Cheshire Showground; supporting all our campers' health and well-being while on Chamboree; and delivering the most ambitious, varied and inclusive programme of daytime activities and evening entertainments Chamboree has ever seen!

I'd also like to record my thanks to the Core Team, for their devotion and for inspiring their teams and thank you to Graham Phillips, our Chair, for his support and mentorship. Finally, I'd like to record my thanks to all the IST for helping to make Chamboree 2022 the best yet and inspiring a future generation.

Visitors to Chamboree

We were delighted to welcome Ian Hill, Regional Commissioner (North West), The Scouts. Trevor Langston, Pledge Lead, Cheshire and Warrington LEP. Lady Redmond, County President and Lord-Lieutenant of Cheshire. Jeannie France-Hayhurst, High Sheriff of Cheshire. Linda Pearson, Cheshire Border Guides. Nikki Barker, Cheshire Forest Guides. Sponsors from Vynova, Lions International, Urencio, and Morrisons. Unfortunately, Carl Hankinson DL, UK Chief Commissioner couldn't attend on the day owing to Covid. On the Tuesday we hosted 50 children from Cheshire Young Carers for the day so they could have a break from their various caring roles. Some of the children have challenging home lives and Cheshire Young Carers provides vital respite support to allow them to be children occasionally. The children who attended had a fantastic time which their feedback shows:

Did you like the range of activities at the Chamboree? Yes: 100%. Their activities included African drumming, VR headsets, rifle shooting, axe throwing, a circus performance and hovercraft ride.

Since Chamboree, a special award has been made by the High Sheriff of Cheshire, Jeannie France-Hayhurst, to the volunteers responsible for organising this summer's Chamboree International Scout and Guide Camp, for making 'an exceptional contribution to the County of Cheshire', she said "What an absolutely amazing event you've pulled off. Well-done on all fronts. I can't think of any event I have attended which was quite as well-organised and which catered for every possible taste in the Universe. There was so much variety and such great opportunities for the young campers – as well as terrific facilities. The enjoyment was palpable, and I was so grateful to be able to see so much of what has been on offer." Jeannie made the presentation at Cheshire Scouts Celebrating Success event.

Feedback

Feedback from the event has been received from a variety of sources and will be built into planning of the next event. From the post event evaluation survey (based on a sample of 155 leaders, 114 participants, 62 IST and 48 parents); 91% of Participants, Leaders and Staff rated Chamboree as Good or Excellent, which increases to 97% if you filter by Participant. 75% of Participants, Leaders and Staff are likely to return to Chamboree in 2026, with 22% unsure on their plans for 2026 at this stage – of the 75% who answered Yes, 97% of them rated Chamboree as good or Excellent.

Dave Hopley

Camp Chief
Chamboree 2022



How we operate

Cheshire County Scout Council's 'Cheshire Scouts' governing documents are those of The Scout Association. They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and The Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.

The County is a Trust established under its rules which are common to all Scouts.

The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.

The County is managed by the Trustee Board, the members of which are the 'Charity Trustees' of the Scout County which is an educational charity. As charity trustees they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.

The Committee consists of 5 ex-officio members, the Chair, Treasurer and Secretary together with the County Commissioner, County Youth Commissioner and up to 6 elected members, up to 5 members nominated by the County Commissioner and up to 5 members co-opted by the Trustee Board and meets every 2 months (6 times per year).

Members of the Trustee Board complete 'Essential Information for Trustee Boards' training within the first 5 months of joining the committee.

The Trustee Board exists to support the County Commissioner in meeting the responsibilities of the appointments and is responsible for:

- Protecting and maintaining any property and equipment owned by and/or used by the County.
- Managing the County finances.
- Providing insurance for people, property, and equipment.
- Promoting and supporting the development of Scouting in the local area.
- Ensuring that a positive image of Scouting exists in the local community.
- Appointing and managing the operation of any sub-Committees.
- Ensuring that Young People are meaningfully involved in decision-making at all levels within the County.

Risk and Internal Control

The County has in place systems of internal controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss, these include 2 signatories for all payments and comprehensive insurance policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

The Trustee Board has identified the major risks to which they believe the County is exposed, these have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate against them. The principal areas of concern that have been identified are:

Damage to building, property and equipment

The County has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss.

Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters, and members

The County through the capitation fees contributes to the Scout Association's national accident insurance policy. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities.

Reduced income

The County is primarily reliant upon income from subscriptions. The County does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Committee could raise the value of subscriptions to increase the income to the County on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently.

Reduction or loss of leaders

The County is reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the County, its Districts and Groups. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or in the worst-case scenario closure.

Reduction or loss of members

The County provides activities for all young people aged 4 to 18. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular District or Group then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or in the worst-case scenario closure.

Our members

Census results for the year ending 31 January 2023

	Male	Female	Self-identify	Prefer not to say	Total
Squirrel Scouts	78	57	0	1	136
Beaver Scouts	2,093	507	0	8	2,608
Cub Scouts	2,331	561	1	15	2,908
Scouts	1,859	598	2	11	2,470
Explorer Scouts (including Young Leaders)	574	301	8	22	905
Scout Network members	210	101	0	38	349
TOTAL YOUTH MEMBERSHIP	7,145	2,125	11	95	9,376
TOTAL ADULT MEMBERSHIP	1,653	1,410	3	30	3,096
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	8,798	3,535	14	125	12,472

UNITS

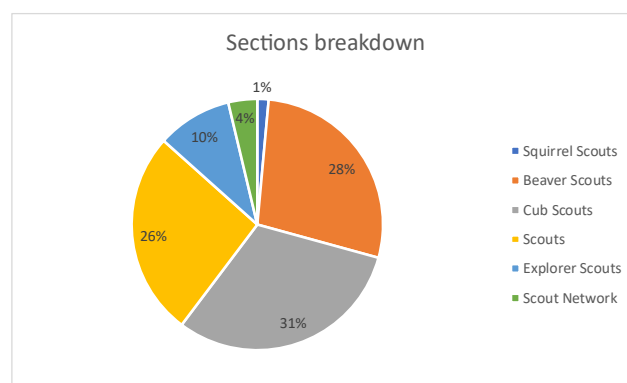
Squirrel Scout Dreys	10
Beaver Scout Colonies	163
Cub Scout Packs	167
Scout Troops	150
Explorer Scout Units (including Young Leader Units)	50
Local Scout Networks	9
Active Support Units	54

GROUPS

147

DISTRICTS

9



DISTRICT BREAKDOWN	Squirrels	Beavers	Cubs	Scouts	Explorers	Network	Adults	Total
Cheshire	-	-	-	-	-	-	144	144
Alderley and Knutsford	25	276	321	266	86	65	316	1,355
Chester and District	-	395	486	347	141	53	371	1,793
Ellesmere Port and Neston	-	162	176	154	51	20	166	729
Macclesfield and Congleton	-	345	401	340	158	37	377	1,644
Mersey Weaver	35	299	324	242	110	36	405	1,451
Mid Cheshire	15	261	283	259	79	8	294	1,199
South West Cheshire	-	352	344	363	125	5	431	1,620
Warrington East	61	282	307	233	88	49	322	1,342
Warrington West	-	236	266	266	67	76	284	1,195
Total	136	2,608	2,908	2,470	905	349	3,096	12,472

Governance structure and Trustee Board membership – 1 July 2022 to 31 June 2023

Founder

Robert Baden-Powell, OM,
First Baron Baden-Powell of Gilwell

Patron

The late Her Majesty Queen
Elizabeth II

President

Lady Redmond (Alexis) MBE

Vice Presidents

Peter Ellis
Frank Hough
Eddie Johnson
Margaret Olliver
Graham Phillips DL MBE
Ray Salisbury JP
Geoff Taylor BEM
Steve Wilkinson
Sir Nicholas Winterton

Chief Scout

Lt Col (Hon) Bear Grylls RM OBE

County Commissioner

Dave Hopley

The Trustee Board

The percentages indicate the number of eligible Board meetings each member attended.

Trustees (Voting)

Peter Mather TD (100%)
County Chair

Dave Hopley (100%)
County Commissioner

Alex Dodd (33%)
County Youth Commissioner
Appointments Committee Chair

Michael Rollinson (83%)
County Deputy Chair

Luke Thornton (67%)
County Treasurer

Janet Williamson (83%)
County Secretary

Philip Cox (100%)
Activity Centres Committee Chair

John Bennett (67%)
John Duley (100%)
Laura Dyer (17%)
Nigel Flatman (67%)
Andrew Little (83%)
David Metcalfe (100%)
Graham Proctor (83%)
Val Thomason (83%)
Eve Vickers (17%)
Jake Vickery (100%)

Right of attendance (Non-voting)

Brendan Booth
Regional Commissioner

Oliver Chambers
Nominated member on the Council of
The Scout Association

Our advisers

Examiners:

Naveed Ahmad BA (hons) FCCA ACA
HGA Accountants & Financial
Consultants Ltd
t/a Chittenden Horley - Chartered
Accountants
Hyde Park House
Cartwright Street
Hyde
SK14 4EH

Bankers:

Royal Bank of Scotland
27 Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AB

Our office

Cheshire Scouts
Asher House
Barsbank Lane, Lymm
Warrington, WA13 0ED

Registration

Charity Commission 511356
The Scouts 00077

Team Cheshire 2022-23

County Lead Volunteer (County Commissioner)

Dave Hopley

County Youth Lead (County Youth Commissioner)

Alex Dodd

Deputy County Commissioners

Val Thomason, People
Graham Proctor, Programme
Andrew Little, Perception

District Lead Volunteers

Will Burnham
Alderley and Knutsford

Alan Wilding
Chester and District

Richie Thornley
Ellesmere Port and Neston

Mike Brown
Macclesfield and Congleton

Oliver Chambers
Mersey Weaver

Stuart Young
Mid Cheshire

Ian Potts
South West Cheshire

Lisa Grady
Warrington East

Adam Potts
Warrington West

Programme Team

Ruth Clemson
Assistant County Commissioner for
Beaver Scouts

Pam Owen
Assistant County Commissioner for
Cub Scouts

Charly O'Brien
Assistant County Commissioner for
Scouts

Amelia Riley
Assistant County Commissioner for
Explorer Scouts

Ian Turnbull
Assistant County Commissioner for
Scout Network

People Team

Tim Owen and Richard Johnson
Team County Training Manager

Roger Owens
Scout Active Support Manager

Neil McAleece
Assistant County Commissioner for
Activities

Nigel Flatman
Assistant County Commissioner for
Events

Graham Shaw
Assistant County Commissioner for
International

John Bennett
Safety Adviser

Laura Dyer
Safeguarding Adviser

Perception Team

Josh Diamond
Assistant County Commissioner for
Communications

Paul Brown
Assistant County Commissioner for
Community Impact

John Duley
Assistant County Commissioner for
Growth & Development

Dave Metcalfe
Assistant County Commissioner for
Inclusion

Employees

Cathy Bland
County Administrator

Deb Arden
Activity Centre Bookings
Administrator



Roll of Honour 2022-2023

Awards issued between 1 January 2022 and 31 March 2023

British Empire Medal



Dee Drake
For her contribution to Scouts as well as founding The Toy Appeal

Alderley and Knutsford

Silver Wolf



Dave Duckett
Graham Smith
Ann Eden
Mark Eden
Ron Sayle
Clive Warrington
Tony Warburton

County
County
Macclesfield and Congleton
Macclesfield and Congleton
Mersey Weaver
Macclesfield and Congleton
Warrington West

Bar to the Silver Acorn



Carol Frain
Diana Stafford
Lis Taylor
Lesley Regan

County
Macclesfield and Congleton
Macclesfield and Congleton
Warrington East

Silver Acorn



Cathy Bland
Darren Gorst
Richard Johnson
Will Burnham
Caroline Smith
Paul Cummings
Neville Griffiths
Mike Timmins

County
County
County
Alderley and Knutsford
Macclesfield and Congleton
Mersey Weaver
Warrington East
Warrington East

Bar to the Award for Merit



Tim Owen
Simon Appleton
Andrew Brown
Berwyn Jones R.I.P.
David Jones
Peter Skirvin
Alan Wadley

County
Macclesfield and Congleton
Macclesfield and Congleton
Macclesfield and Congleton
Macclesfield and Congleton
Macclesfield and Congleton
Macclesfield and Congleton

Award for Merit



Graham Proctor
 Emma Pearson
 David Coyle
 Julian Amey
 Claire Halsey
 Elizabeth Insley
 Andy Ratcliffe
 Julie Skirvin
 Jane Wood
 Gary Austin
 Rebecca Beardsworth
 Kevin Duckett
 David Joyce
 Paul Sutcliffe
 Leza Walker
 David Walker
 Nicholas Walker
 Andrew Wheeler
 Gillian Wynne-Parle
 Paul Clarke
 Kate Knight
 Daniel Baldwin
 Gillian Hughes
 Matt Kindon
 Paul Speake
 Christine Worthington
 Sarah Bailey
 Ian Baker
 Robert Lynch
 Andy Mountain
 Carol Redmond
 Stephen Pennington

County
 Alderley and Knutsford
 Alderley and Knutsford
 Macclesfield and Congleton
 Macclesfield and Congleton
 Macclesfield and Congleton
 Macclesfield and Congleton
 Macclesfield and Congleton
 Macclesfield and Congleton
 Mersey Weaver
 Mersey Weaver
 Mersey Weaver
 Mersey Weaver
 Mersey Weaver
 Mersey Weaver
 Mersey Weaver
 Mersey Weaver
 Mersey Weaver
 Mersey Weaver
 Mid Cheshire
 Mid Cheshire
 South West Cheshire
 Warrington East
 Warrington East
 Warrington East
 Warrington East
 Warrington West
 Warrington West
 Warrington West
 Warrington West
 Warrington West
 Warrington West
 Warrington West
 Warrington West

Meritorious Conduct



Edey Wells
 Christine Taylor

South West Cheshire
 Warrington East

Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Service



Stephen Bush	Alderley and Knutsford
Annabel Bush	Alderley and Knutsford
Gareth Hesslegrave	Alderley and Knutsford
Sarah Farrer Templeton	Alderley and Knutsford
Laura Baynham-Hughes	Mersey Weaver
Jack Bennion	Mersey Weaver
Lucy Chapman-Coward	Mersey Weaver
Gillian Cook	Mersey Weaver
Duncan Edwards	Mersey Weaver
Gillian Findlow	Mersey Weaver
Kevin Holland	Mersey Weaver
Jessica Hunt-Chambers	Mersey Weaver
Dave King	Mersey Weaver
Dawn Lamb	Mersey Weaver
Lorna McTigue	Mersey Weaver
Gail Molyneaux	Mersey Weaver
Graham Newton	Mersey Weaver
John Shaw	Mersey Weaver
Reginald Simpson	Mersey Weaver
Sarah Smallman	Mersey Weaver
Jessica Vale	Mersey Weaver
Brian Bates	Warrington East
Philip Billington	Warrington East
Adam Coupland	Warrington East
Richard Davies	Warrington East
Michael Farini	Warrington East
Ellie Fradley	Warrington East
Debbie Francis	Warrington East
Sarah O'Neill	Warrington East
Jane Risley	Warrington East
Peter Sheridan	Warrington East
Victoria Simpson-Forrest	Warrington East
Mark Thorpe	Warrington East
Lee Thwaite	Warrington East
Will Tynan	Warrington East
David Wallington	Warrington East
Elizabeth Wilmot	Warrington East
Ania Zajac	Warrington East
Lisa Buggins	Warrington West
Jacqueline Fisher	Warrington West
Gillian Gornall	Warrington West
Rachel Hampson	Warrington West
Carys Kendall	Warrington West
Amanda MacFarlane	Warrington West
Lauren McElroy	Warrington West
Daniel Meadows	Warrington West
Norma Naylor	Warrington West
Peter Naylor	Warrington West
Sylvia Simon	Warrington West

Commissioner's Commendations



Brandon Hone
Eve Vickers
Harry Buglass
Grace Wheeler
Jessica De Sousa
Joseph Lomas
Matthew Flint
Michael Mairs
Aiden Lynch
Carenza Atkins
Janette Wood
Kathy Walton
James Harley
Ross Fraser

County
County
County
County
County
County
County
County
County
Alderley and Knutsford
Chester and District
Macclesfield and Congleton
Macclesfield and Congleton
Warrington East
Warrington East

High Sheriff's Awards



Dave Hopley
Nick Hirst
Victoria Barton
Andrew Little
Alex Dodd
Lisa Grady
Simon Bentley
Oliver Chambers
Emily Morris
Matt Bather
Mark Turnbull
Catherine Hirst
Laura Dyer
Graham Proctor
Harriet Taylor
Liz Cusick
Ellen Hallam
Mike Sheffield
Ian Mackintosh
Phil Cooper
Nigel Flatman
Mike Flatman
Dave Nock
Steve Shone
Paul Brown
Alex Davies
Darren Gorst
Will Burnham
Luke Morby
Claire Worth
Val Thomason
John Bennett
Ruth Flatman
Julie Phillips
Keith Phillips

Lead Volunteer
Programme Team Leader
Activity Zone Lead
Activity Zone Lead
Activity Zone Lead
Activity Zone Lead
Activity Zone Lead
Activity Zone Lead
Activity Zone Lead
Activity Zone Lead
Activity Zone Lead
Entertainments Team Leader
Performance Lead
Camper Experience Team Leader
Subcamp Lead
Subcamp Lead
Subcamp Lead
Subcamp Lead
Subcamp Lead
Campfires Lead
Chamboree TV Team Leader
Site Operations Team Leader
Infrastructure Lead
Communications Lead
Plumbing and Sewerage Lead
Refuse and Recycling Lead
Cleaning Lead
Traffic and Security Lead
Stewarding Lead
Transport Lead
IST Team Leader
Retail Team Leader
Safety Lead
Finance Lead
IST Catering Lead
IST Catering Lead

Queen's Scout Awards



Alex Dodd
 Alex Morris-Coker
 Emma Shortall
 Toby Abbott
 Alex Lunnon
 Amber Houghton
 Joseph Lomas
 Charles Hogg
 Jake Robinson

County
 Chester and District
 Chester and District
 Chester and District
 Knutsford and District
 Knutsford and District
 Macclesfield and Congleton
 Macclesfield and Congleton
 Warrington West

King's Scout Awards



Matthew Flint
 Hugh Gibson
 Jack Green
 Ross Massie

Alderley and Knutsford
 Chester and District
 Chester and District
 Macclesfield and Congleton

Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Awards



Matthew Flint
 Joshua Townsend
 Ruth Hampson
 Charles Hogg
 Joseph Lomas
 Ross Massie
 Harry White
 Samuel Wood
 Adam Potts
 Jake Robinson
 Elliot Wilson

Alderley and Knutsford
 Alderley and Knutsford
 Macclesfield and Congleton
 Macclesfield and Congleton
 Macclesfield and Congleton
 Macclesfield and Congleton
 Macclesfield and Congleton
 Macclesfield and Congleton
 Warrington West
 Warrington West
 Warrington West



Our Finances

Cheshire Scouts' financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice, (Accounting and Reporting by Charities) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Ireland, FRS 102, known as the Charities SORP (FRS 102), and the Charities Act 2011.

Reserves Policy

The County's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the County should income and fundraising activities fall short. The Trustee Board considered the normalised expenditure from one year to the next, excluding the impact of Chamboree, and used 6 months of expenditure as a starting point for their analysis. This showed a c.£150k requirement for the reserves. In addition to this, the Trustees considered the additional impact of Chamboree on the charity. They therefore calculated a 25% expenditure overrun, based on a gross budget of £500k, and established an additional reserve of £125k. This gives a total reserves requirement of £275k. To be prudent, the Trustees evaluated a reasonable ongoing minimum reserves position of £300k. This clearly leaves headroom above the £579k unrestricted reserves position currently. The Board therefore are looking to utilise this additional headroom, by doing the following:

- Investing an amount of the additional resources, via the Board's investment policy

- Looking to create a managed deficit in the year, via investing in the long-term development of the charity through growth initiatives and supporting large events (e.g., Chamboree & Jamboree).

The board are also actively considering how access to additional funds, for example through grants, can support Cheshire Scouts through activity centres and accessibility to accelerate our growth, and this is viewed to be in the long-term financial interest of the Charity.

Investment Policy

The Trustee Board takes a proactive approach to its financial position. In doing so, when there are surplus reserves above that which will be required over the short to medium term, the Trustees will look to allocate it to areas which will benefit the long-term health of the charity, be that in the level of activity through investing in the development of the charity, or into financial investments to generate a long-term financial return to the charity. The Trustees have the authority to allocate the financial resources as it sees fit to further the charitable endeavours of the charity. The charity's investment objectives are to generate a return on the financial assets of the charity, so that its resources continue to keep pace with inflation and ideally generate a return above inflation.

The charity's approach to risk is as follows:

- To ensure the charity's resources are appropriately diversified across asset classes, when considering all the financial resources of the charity.
- To invest over a sufficient timeframe so to achieve higher returns and be able to weather out any shorter-term downturns in the market.

- To invest in funds with specified strategies/ trackers, rather than specific stocks or bonds, to ensure that we are utilising fund managers and strategies broader than the charity.
- To invest with reputable and respected investment managers, to safeguard the charity's assets and reputation.
- To ensure that our funds are not held with a single institution, to protect us from concentrated credit risk.

Our Finances

Independent examiner's report

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Naveed Ahmad BA (hons) FCCA ACA
HGA Accountants & Financial
Consultants Ltd
t/a Chittenden Horley - Chartered
Accountants
Hyde Park House
Cartwright Street
Hyde
SK14 4EH

13th June 2023

Consolidated statement of financial activities

for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.22 Total funds £	31.12.21 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		10,942	-	10,942	793
Charitable activities					
Campsites		77,372	-	77,372	42,742
Training		-	-	-	-
Duke of Edinburgh Awards		4,771	-	4,771	3,139
Cheshire Hike		6,975	-	6,975	-
Investment income	2	119	-	119	98
Membership Fees		25,443	-	25,443	33,119
Total		167,207	-	167,207	79,892
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
General		-	-	-	-
Campsites		92,606	-	92,606	71,171
Chamboree		12,862	-	12,862	-
Other Scouting Activities		35,818	-	35,818	44,495
Training		5,106	-	5,106	1,550
Duke of Edinburgh and Higher Awards		6,218	-	6,218	5,463
Cheshire Hike		5,870	-	15,870	486
Group Computer Systems OSM		18,576	-	18,576	21,295
Total		187,057	-	187,057	144,460
Net gains/(losses) on investments		(97)	-	(97)	-
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(19,850)	-	(19,850)	(64,568)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		598,543	135,239	733,782	798,350
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		578,693	135,239	713,932	733,782

Balance sheets

As at 31 December 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.22 Total funds £	31.12.21 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	4	100,639	-	100,639	84,173
Investments	5	19,668	-	19,668	19,765
		<u>120,306</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>120,306</u>	<u>103,938</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	6	20,450	-	20,450	80,097
Cash at bank		523,866	135,239	659,105	636,177
		<u>544,316</u>	<u>135,239</u>	<u>679,555</u>	<u>716,216</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	7	(85,929)	-	(85,929)	(85,929)
		<u>458,387</u>	<u>135,239</u>	<u>593,626</u>	<u>630,345</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
		<u>578,693</u>	<u>135,239</u>	<u>713,932</u>	<u>734,283</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
		<u>578,693</u>	<u>135,239</u>	<u>713,932</u>	<u>734,283</u>
NET ASSETS					
		<u>578,693</u>	<u>135,239</u>	<u>713,932</u>	<u>734,283</u>
FUNDS					
8					
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund				273,847	293,696
Building Fund				194,696	194,696
County Activity Fund				54,408	54,408
International Fund				8,487	8,487
Campsite Development				47,256	47,256
				<u>578,694</u>	<u>598,543</u>
Restricted funds:					
Rolling Fund				15,430	15,430
Leverhulme Fund				4,489	4,489
Presidents Fund				3,499	3,499
Ernest Mather Fund				111,821	111,821
Cheshire Freemasons Fund				-	-
				<u>135,239</u>	<u>135,239</u>
TOTAL FUNDS					
				<u>713,933</u>	<u>733,782</u>

Approved by the Trustee Board on 9 May 2023 and authorised for release and signed on its behalf by:



Peter Mather TD
Chair of the Trustee Board



Luke Thornton
County Treasurer

Our thanks

Cheshire Scouts would like to thank all its volunteers and supporters for their commitment and contributions over the last year.

Cheshire Scouts

Charity number:
511356 (England and Wales)

Registered address:
Asher House
Barsbank Lane, Lymm
Warrington, WA13 0ED

Contact us:
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instagram.com/cheshirescouts

