

## **Watford North District Scout Council**

### **Trustees Report 2021**

It is a pleasure to report that life...and Scouting in Watford North ... is getting back to normal! As we bounce back and recover from the Pandemic the UK and British Scouting overseas is showing record growth of some 16%; the biggest since World War II. The numbers are so encouraging - 360 000 has become 420 000 - with our biggest youth membership growth in 80 years! This speaks volumes about everything that we are offering young people at all levels of the Scouting Movement.

I am pleased to report that Watford North has been a part of this growth increasing membership numbers of young people from 519 to 552; a rise of 6%. Really good news and validating, as always, the work that is done within the District to support and encourage our young people.

The Watford North has 9 Groups, 9 Beaver Colonies, 11 Cub Packs, 9 Scout Troops, 3 Explorer Units, 1 Network Unit and 2 Active Service Units ... much to be proud of and to be celebrated.

The task of finding adult leaders continues and does hamper more growth; we have 195 adult leaders, and this is down from 234 in 2020! However, the waiting list has been reduced from 110 to 59 which is good news and yet more evidence of the amazing work taking place. We are continually looking for new members to join the District. Roles are so varied and there really is something for everyone. The span and depth of activity in Watford North is startling and the more you look the more you find!

The District is busy and thriving thanks to the tireless work of our adult leaders led most ably by our District Commissioner David Collette. David's passion for Scouting has been lifelong and he leads with enthusiasm, solid knowledge and above all with direction and a clear understanding of what needs to be done. The District is in such good shape thanks, in part, to his dedication and my thanks go to David from us all.

We will again be supporting 6 young people who are going to the World Scout Jamboree to be held in South Korea in 2023. Exciting and wonderful opportunities for all involved.

Places to meet are now secure with new leases - huge thanks to Roger Sands and to local councillors for their assistance. The last of the new leases is with

solicitors and will be finalised shortly. A lot of work has been done to ensure the future of Groups who rely on their meeting places and without the care and attention that has been given many would have been in jeopardy. Thank you, Roger!

It's taking time but we are delighted to see that all sections are returning to camping and to the many outdoor activities enjoyed by Scouts. Thanks must go to the extraordinary efforts made by leaders to restore confidence and rejuvenate lost passions. The District Camp was a big success and congratulations to all who helped to make this happen. The past two years have been challenging for us all and it is lovely to see youngsters out and about rekindling past enthusiasms.

Lees Wood is a wonderful part of the District. A Strategy Planning Team was set up to look at the site and its needs both now and in the future. This is working well, we have seen short, medium and now long term projects taking shape proving that mountains can be moved and that voices will be heard to create and execute meaningful plans. The future of Lees Wood is looking good!

Finally, a huge thank you to the Executive Committee Members who give freely of their time to ensure that problems are swiftly solved, accounts are managed, support offered where needed and above all to ensure a united District. Andrew Reeve crunches the numbers and Berniece Newlan the words...thank you to you both for your hard work and the support you give me on a regular basis.

.....Watford North is doing well and a beacon for Scouting!

**Margaret F. Howard**


**WATFORD NORTH DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL**  
**(CHARITY No. 1017809)**

**FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

<b>INCOME</b>	
Membership Subscriptions	35,000.66
Donations/Grants	500.00
Activities	10,597.96
Fund Raising	247.64
Jamboree	600.00
Bank Interest	1.39
Sundry	4,905.96
<b>Total</b>	<b>51,853.61</b>

<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	
Membership Subscriptions	26,592.54
Donations	0.00
Activities	11,280.17
Jamboree	0.00
Fund Raising	231.64
District Team Expenses	859.32
Equipment	224.93
Training	170.00
AGM	0.00
Subscriptions	35.00
Insurances / Licences	281.49
Sundry	2,294.96
Transfer to Savings	3,195.96
<b>Total</b>	<b>£45,166.01</b>

## Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts

Report to the trustees/members of	Watford North District Scout Council
Charity No	1017809
On accounts for the year ended	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2021
<b>Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner</b>	<p>The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.</p> <p>It is my responsibility to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act</li> <li>• to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and</li> <li>• to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.</li> </ul>
<b>Basis of independent examiner's statement</b>	<p>My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual terms or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.</p>
<b>Independent examiner's statement</b>	<p>In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;</li> <li>• to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or</li> </ul> </li> <li>2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.</li> </ol>
Signed	
Date	18 <sup>th</sup> March 2022
Name	Christine Hickey
Address	182, Devon Road Luton Beds LU2 0RL