

# BIRMINGHAM COUNTY SCOUTS ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2016



#skillsforlife



[birminghamscouts.org.uk](http://birminghamscouts.org.uk)

## County Commissioner's Report

It gives me great pleasure to report that Scouting in Birmingham is a truly vibrant and thriving organisation, and that 2016 has been an incredibly successful year in which we've continued to take forwards and demonstrate real progress toward our strategic objectives.

Whilst we've continued to dedicate a significant effort on the four individual objectives that comprise our national 2018 vision (Growth, Inclusivity, Youth Shaped and Community Impact), I want to focus on two specific areas within this annual report; our growth story and the development of youth shaped Scouting within Birmingham.

From a growth perspective, the 2017 annual census shows a net increase of 10% in our total membership, with the County now reporting 7,462 young people and adults which represents a terrific increase of more than 28% and an additional 1,592 people having joined Scouting in Birmingham over the last 5 years. Our national focus on recruiting additional leaders to help us provide Scouting to over 54,000 young people who are on waiting lists is equally valid in Birmingham and even though we have 2,000 adult volunteers within the County we know that if we can recruit additional leaders it will enable us to reach even more young people.

We reported last year that we had appointed Sean Kelly and Jamie Burrell as our new County Youth Commissioner and Deputy County Youth Commissioner and I'm delighted to be able to report that we now have District Youth Commissioners in place across four of our six Districts and they're playing an active role in helping our young people shape their Scouting experiences and ensure they have a voice within their sections, Groups and Districts to advise and influence what's happening on a day to day basis. As we move into 2017 the Youth Commissioner Team have great plans to support the national #youshape month in February and are planning local forums and a County-wide young leaders weekend.

2016 was definitely a year for celebrating as we saw a Beavers 30th Birthday Party, the Cub 100 celebrations and our own

BrumJam international camp. Over 2,000 people took part in these events and had an absolutely awesome experience – it was a delight to be able to attend these great activities and I'm sure that they've made a real difference to many of our members. Alongside these 'one-off' events, we hosted the National Scout & Guide Symphony Orchestra again last July where over 110 young people enjoyed a fabulous week of tuition and activities that led to a number of spectacular concerts being performed at the end of the week. The County Team have also continued to support the Groups and Districts within Birmingham, with an excellent programme of activities which continue to events such as our Bivouac, BrumVenture and iceScout weekends, Mountain Leadership Training, Faiths for Fun, our County Remembrance Service and a wide range of sectional competitions including Air Rifle Shooting, Football and Chess.

One of the most memorable occasions of 2016 was the unveiling of the National Scout Memorial at the National Arboretum in Staffordshire which was the culmination of the The Scout Memorial Project. The team raised in excess of £140,000 to fund the construction of what is a truly poignant memorial to everybody who has given service to Scouting and their communities. Over 1,500 attended the unveiling including Wayne Bulpitt, the UK Chief Commissioner, and a number of other special guests. This really was a moment to be supremely proud of our County and the young people who originally inspired the project.

We've continued to see many of our young people achieve Chief Scouts Awards, with over 420 awards being earned during the year by Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers as well as a number of Queen's Scout Awards and two Explorer Belt Expeditions which took place in Austria and Canada during the year. We held our 3rd Celebration & Achievement Evening at the Pathfinder Lodge in Northfield just a few weeks ago where we celebrated the higher awards. These awards are not easily earned and I'd like to thank all of our leaders who support and encourage our young people in achieving them.

From an administrative perspective, the County continues to be financially stable and I'm delighted to report strong financial performance with a small operating surplus of £2,380 being generated during the year. These figures include the proceeds from the County Shop but exclude donations that we've received. Our accounts show a net £122,220 inflow of funds which includes donations and income received for events where the costs will be incurred in 2017). Our activity centres run by Blackwell Adventure have also reported a great year with a turnover of £937,418 and a net surplus of £37,685 being generated.

The County Management Team and our Programme Teams have continued to meet throughout the year, helping to shape our future plans and priorities.

I hope you'll agree that 2016 has been an excellent year for Scouting in Birmingham and I believe we have strong foundations in place to build upon even further as we go into the future, however none of this would be possible without our remarkable team of leaders, supporter and parents across the County and my sincere thanks go to everybody for their continued energy and enthusiasm, providing great experiences for all of our young people.

**Andrew Lloyd**  
County Commissioner





## County Services

Volunteers continue to provide service to the County membership at the County shop. Other volunteers cover Communications, Chief Scout's Awards administration, Development, Adult Training and Programme working with the sectional Assistant County Commissioners in the administration of the youth section. Thank you to the team.

## County Centres – Blackwell Court and Pikes Pool

2016 has been extremely busy for Blackwell Adventure and we were pleased to play our part in hosting the celebrations for Cubs 100, Beavers 30 and, of course, BrumJam.

The Centre continues to be popular with Schools and Colleges with both the manor house and tented villages proving in high demand.

As part of the continuing programme of improvements the main boy's toilet block at Blackwell Court has been completely refurbished and we are now undertaking a similar schedule of improvements to the main girl's toilet block. In addition, a new fan descender has been added to the range of adventurous activities.

In looking forward the Board wish to continue with its plans to provide a new accommodation block to house up to 80 young people. Architects have now produced a detailed set of plans and supporting documentation. The next stage is to seek outline planning permission from Bromsgrove District Council.

During the year, the centre saw the departure of Paul Barlow, the Campsite and Facilities Manager after eight years' loyal service. The year has also seen several changes in Board membership who have spent a significant amount of time reviewing the governance arrangements for the company and the overall working relationships with the County.

Once again, our thanks go to all those who 'made it happen' during 2016 especially our paid staff and our dedicated volunteer team whose skill and expertise consistently 'deliver the goods'.

**Gerald Peel**  
Chair of Blackwell Adventure Board

## Trustees

The Trustees of the Scout Association County of Birmingham are appointed in accordance with the Policy Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association. The Trustees are mindful of their continued duty to assess and monitor the risks to which they believe the Scout Association County of Birmingham is exposed to and to take actions necessary to mitigate such risks.

## County Executive

The County Executive has met four times during 2016 and has dealt with matters on an ongoing basis. There have been six sub-committees operating during the year – this includes the long established Faiths and Beliefs sub-committee and the more recent County Shop sub-committee, Stakeholders sub-committee, Appointment Advisory sub-committee, the County Centres Strategic Development sub-committee and The Big Idea sub-committee. Thank you teams.

## County Management Team

The County Management Team (CMT) has met on a monthly basis during 2016 by face to face meetings and conference call. During the year the CMT objectives and improved working relationship with the Executive, the Scouting Vision for 2018, the financial management of the County, the development of the County's properties, plus the work of volunteers and services offered to the County as a whole has continued to be a focus of the CMT's considerations.

On behalf of the whole County, the County Executive and CMT members would like to thank all the volunteers in the Sections, Groups, Districts and the County, together with those that work and volunteer at Blackwell Court, Pikes Pool and the County Shop for all their efforts in helping the County to continue to provide excellent services to all the young people involved with Scouting in Birmingham.

## Charity Details

Charity name: The Scout Association  
County of Birmingham  
Other name the charity is known by:  
Birmingham County Scouts  
Registered charity number: 524566  
Registered charity date: 25th March 1964  
HQ Registration number: 00103  
HQ Registration date: 16th March 1931  
Charity registered address:  
Centenary House, 89-91 Hatchett Street,  
Newtown, Birmingham B19 3NY  
Tel: 0121 330 1212, Email: [headquarters@birminghamscouts.org.uk](mailto:headquarters@birminghamscouts.org.uk)  
Web: [www.birminghamscouts.org.uk](http://www.birminghamscouts.org.uk)

Other Charity name: Blackwell Adventure  
Other Charity principle address:  
Blackwell Court, Agmore Road, Blackwell,  
Worcester, B60 1PX  
Tel: 0121 445 1285,  
Email: [info@blackwelladventure.co.uk](mailto:info@blackwelladventure.co.uk)  
Web: [www.blackwelladventure.co.uk](http://www.blackwelladventure.co.uk)

Custodian Trustees:  
The Scout Association Trust Corporation

## Bankers

HSBC Bank plc, 130 New Street,  
Birmingham B32 4JU

Lloyds Bank plc, 25 Gresham Street,  
London EC2V 7HN

## Charity Trustees 2016

### Committee Members Ex-Officio (trustee, voting)

Andrew Lloyd –  
County Commissioner  
Dave Allen –  
County Chairman (County Officers)  
Nick Fawdry –  
County Secretary (County Officers)  
Linda Gurmin –  
County Treasurer (County Officers)  
Sean Kelly – County Youth Commissioner

### Committee Nominated Members (trustee, voting)

Harry Fowler  
Alex Harverson  
David Gilburn  
Janet Sutton  
Adam Brinkworth  
Gerry Russell

## Committee Elected Members (trustee, voting)

Keith Hemming (resigned 16.05.16)  
Heidi Guest (elected 16.05.16)  
David Phillips  
John Smith  
Yvonne Woodhall  
Rhys Mant

### Committee Co-opted Members (trustee, voting)

Chair of the Appointment Advisory  
Sub Committee – Simon Cardall  
Chair of the Faiths and Beliefs  
Sub Committee – Daryl Holloway

### Committee Invited to attend (not trustees, nonvoting)

County Communications Manager –  
Amanda Cardall  
County Safety Co-ordinator – Chris Ely  
  
Chair of Blackwell Adventure – Gerald Peel

### Committee Right to attend (not trustee, nonvoting)

Regional Commissioner – Dan Potter

Note: The members of the executive committee serve  
from May 2016 to May 2017.

### Charity Supporters 2016 (not trustees) County President

David Bradnock MBE, DL, JP, FBHI

### County Parton

John Saville DL, JP

### County Vice Presidents

His Grace the Archbishop of Birmingham –  
The Most Reverend Bernard Longley  
The Bishop of Birmingham -  
The Rt. Revd. David Urquhart  
Hon. Ald. Len Gregory  
Cllr Randall Brew OBE,FCA  
Mr Duncan Cadbury  
Mr Lawrence Fagg  
Mrs Maggie Jones  
Mr Rick Keeber  
Mr Brian Kimberley  
Mrs Sheila Kimberley  
Mr Pete Oldham  
Mr Graham Shaylor OBE  
Mrs Marion Simms  
Miss Linda Bateman  
Mr Tom Cryer  
Mr Peter Taylor  
Mr Gordon Higginson  
Mr Roger Morcom  
Mr Paul Platnauer  
Mrs Sarah Trinder  
Mr Daryl Holloway (appointed 16.05.16)

## St. George's Day 2017 Awards

|  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| Dave Allen   | Silver Wolf         |
| Olwen Bird   | Silver Wolf         |
| Gerald Peel  | Silver Wolf         |
| Michael Stanley                                    | Silver Wolf         |
| Frederick Endor                                    | Bar to Silver Acorn |
| Jacqueline Jones                                   | Bar to Silver Acorn |
| Ross Denning                                       | Silver Acorn        |
| Keith Dyde   | Silver Acorn        |
| Raymond Giles                                      | Silver Acorn        |
| Brian Harvey                                       | Silver Acorn        |
| Jackie Lees  | Silver Acorn        |
| Nick Fawdry  | Silver Acorn        |
| Paul Little  |                     |
| Chief Scout's Personal Award<br>(Issued June 2016) |                     |

## Structure, governance and management

Refer to Financial statements for details

## Risk and Internal Control

Refer to Financial statements for details

## Objectives and activities

Refer to Financial statements for details

## Financial review

Refer to Financial statements for details

## Reserves policy

Refer to Financial statements for details

## Investment Policy

Refer to Financial statements for details



## Birmingham County

### County Office

Centenary House, 89–91 Hatchett Street,  
Newtown, Birmingham, B19 3NY

Tel: 0121 330 1212

Email:  
[headquarters@birminghamscouts.org.uk](mailto:headquarters@birminghamscouts.org.uk)

Web: [www.birminghamscouts.org.uk](http://www.birminghamscouts.org.uk)

Like us on Facebook and follow us on  
Twitter: [@birminghamscout](https://twitter.com/birminghamscout)

### Blackwell Adventure

Blackwell Court, Agmore Road, Blackwell,  
Worcestershire, B60 1PX

Tel: 0121 445 1285

Email: [info@blackwelladventure.co.uk](mailto:info@blackwelladventure.co.uk)

Web: [www.blackwelladventure.co.uk](http://www.blackwelladventure.co.uk)

Like us on Facebook and follow us on  
Twitter: [@blackwelladv](https://twitter.com/blackwelladv)