



Mid Cornwall Scouts

**Annual report
September 202**

District Commissioner Report

Census January 2021 - Summary - Mid Cornwall							
Name	Beavers	Cubs	Scouts	Explorers	Network	Adults	Total
Mid Cornwall	-	-	-	38	3	41	79
1st Bugle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1st Gorran and Mevagissey	-	7	6	-	-	8	21
Lostwithiel	-	4	6	-	-	8	18
1st Newquay Scout Group	44	29	37	-	-	36	146
5th Newquay	6	15	16	-	-	24	61
1st Par-St Blazey and Fowey	12	16	6	-	-	15	49
Polkerris	20	15	24	-	-	20	79
1st St Austell	26	9	16	-	-	12	63
3rd St Austell	6	5	32	-	-	10	53
2nd St Austell/Charlestown	15	24	14	-	-	23	76
St Enoder Scout Group	-	2	4	-	-	8	14
1st St Eval	17	17	5	-	-	17	56
1st St Stephen	4	4	2	-	-	7	17
Sticker	3	15	11	-	-	14	43
The Clays Scout Group	5	9	5	-	-	6	25
Totals	158	171	184	38	3	249	800
Change from previous year	-45	-99	+7	-1	-7	-5	-143
% change from previous year	-22%	-37%	+4%	-3%	-70%	-2%	-15%
Change from 2016 (5 years)	-54	-102	-22	-19	-17	+54	-143
% change from 2016	-25%	-37%	-11%	-33%	-85%	+28%	-15%

So, who would have thought that from our last AGM to this would have seen even more disruption and change to our scouting lives than before! I am so happy to say that the District decline in Numbers during COVID was lower than the average for the UK, this was down to all of the Hard work that was put in by the Adult Volunteers in the district whether it was providing online and virtual provision or simply by keeping in touch with the young people to ensure they knew what was happening and when things would be back running again.

However, the 15% drop in membership across Mid Cornwall has left us with several challenges that are yet to be resolved and overcome. As a district team are currently reviewing where the biggest challenges are within our provision and will be contacting groups individually to discuss forward proposals and plans.

Some of these decisions may be difficult but they will all be made with the best interests of Scouting in mind and will help us to grow and gain back those members that we lost over the course of the pandemic.

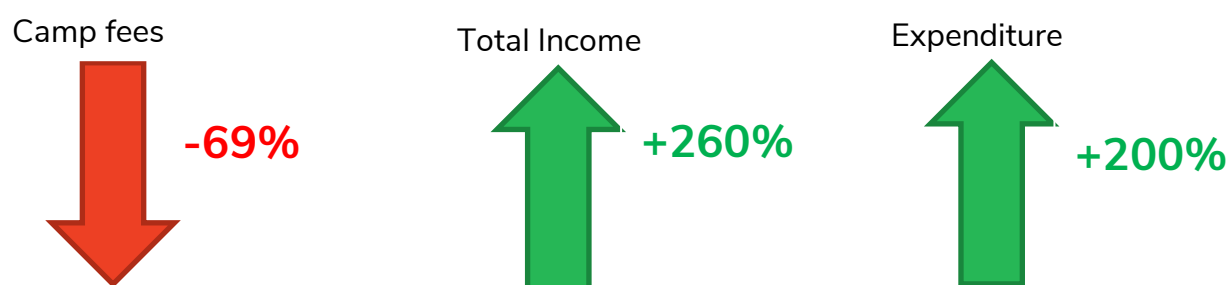
On a Positive note, it has been great to get out and start presenting some of the backlog of awards that I have here, I promise that I will get them all out and done as soon as possible!



Finally, I would like to say a massive thank you to all of the people involved in our district for your hard work and support for me over what has been a testing 2 years. The next year will not be easy as we get back to the new normal for scouting but I feel confident that we will be able to look back at the next AGM and say that we have moved forwards and are still providing great provision for all ages in all sections.

James McIntyre
District Commissioner

Campsite Report



As you would expect with the lockdowns and restrictions, Drummers Lodge has had an unusually quiet year.

When face to face meetings were once again allowed, we saw local Scout and Guides groups making use of the outdoor space. The marquee has been a great addition to the site, due to the COVID restrictions it has allowed the site to be used safely and provide some shelter from the elements when needed.

Although income from camping fees dramatically reduced, the support of the retail leisure and hospitality grants and more recently the local restrictions funds has kept the income up. The campsite has a relatively small amount of regular outgoings. Additional planned expenditure was on the improvement projects started pre pandemic. Overall the financial security needed to maintain it as a viable asset has been there throughout the pandemic.

When allowed a small team of committed volunteers have been working to maintain the site. The gravel area for the marquee was completed and more recently the middle pitch has been re-soiled to help with drainage. Mark Tippet has kept on top of maintaining the trees and bushes around the site, as well as opening up an area at the bottom of the site ideal as a survival camping zone.

The development plan for Drummers is due to be revisited, and that will set the direction for how the site continues to be improved and where investment is made. The site is here primarily for the provision of the District, so any ideas or suggestions from the groups who use the site are always welcome.

Shaun Wakeham

On behalf of Drummers Lodge committee

The District Scout Council wishes to thank Alan Pearson and the team for running and maintaining the site. We are extremely lucky to have this facility in the District and encourage groups to use it to support their programme and activities for young people.

Scout Active Support Unit

After a year of following the government and scouting guidelines and rules, the SAS are meeting face to face for the first time since early 2020. They have an afternoon get together on the 29th of July at Sticker scout HQ planned, and then an evening BBQ at Drummers Lodge in August.

Future meetings will be on the first Thursday of each month at 7.30pm, new members always welcome, no previous connection with scouting required.

Alan Pearson
SAS manager

Training

With the advent of the new rules requiring 'Getting Started' basic modules to be completed alongside securing a DBS, the uptake for training has been more encouraging this year albeit only in terms of on-line e-learning modules. Three of my four groups (5th Newquay, 1st Newquay and St Eval) are fully compliant with the minimum requirements. St Enoder has some new leaders who have yet to complete the key modules but they have been encouraged to do so and have until September until further follow-up action is required. Beyond basic requirements there has been little progress but some leaders have shown a lot of initiative and worked really hard to source training elsewhere in order to complete wood-badge training. Opportunities to catch up with first aid (both on-line and practical) have gone down well and it is hoped that we can reduce the backlog in the coming year.

Andy Nash
District Trainer

District Appointments

With the start of lockdown in March 2020 all DBS and repeat DBS applications were halted. A list of any repeat DBSs was kept and actioned as soon as the Atlantic system reopened. In the year April 2020 to March 2021 there were 29 repeat DBS completed.

We are now allowed to see documents via e-mail etc. but that needs to be followed up with a zoom call to validate ID. This change has undoubtedly helped with the process through the later part of the pandemic.

Appointment Panels

The appointment panel members are Steve Allen, Pete Volkner, John and Chris Sargeant. We have been holding appointment panels via zoom and have met with 13 adults since September. We have also ratified 4 change of roles.

Thanks to our panel members who have support Falmouth district too.

Training

New training requirements came out in the new POR in September

All exec members whether old or new must undertake the online "Trustee" training

Luke Smith

Chair of Appointments sub committee

The District Scout Council wish to thank the appointments committee for their continued hard work in ensuring our adults and supports are correctly and promptly approved for their roles. A task made even more difficult throughout the pandemic.

Scout Shop



As you can imagine this report will be a little different than usual. With the shop hardly open due to Covid. That has had an effect on sales which have dramatically reduced.

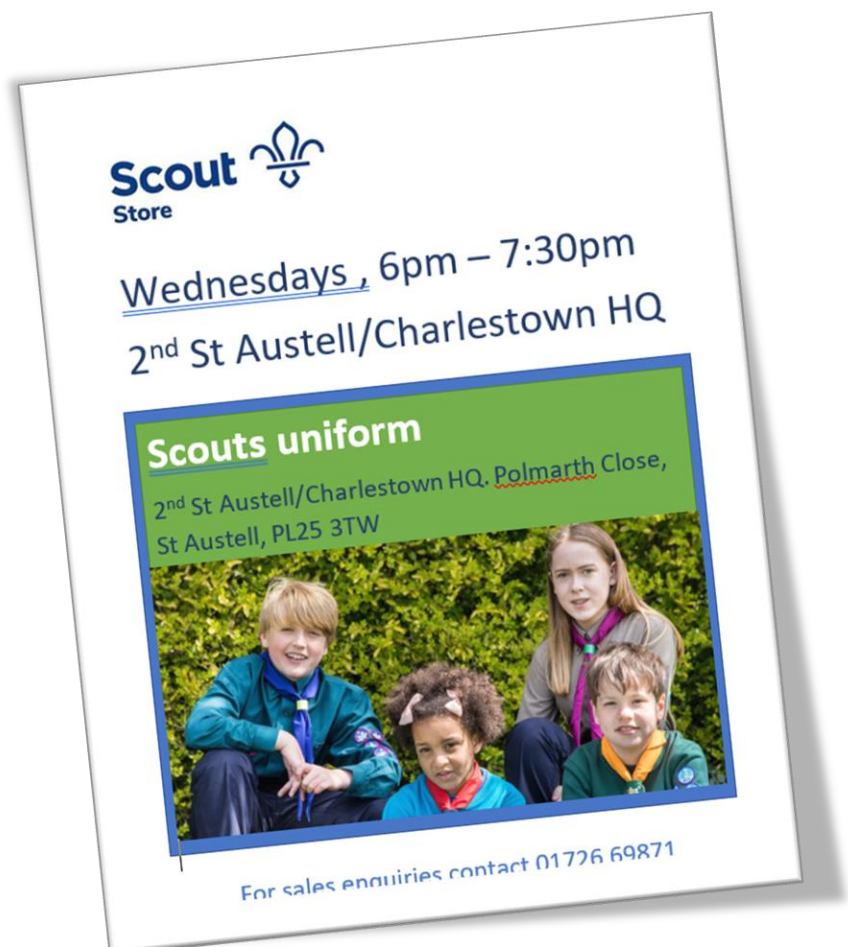
On the plus side since we have re-opened and fairly busy with Beavers, Cubs and Scouts who should have moved sections buying uniforms for their new sections.

We now hold a selection of badges from the previous badge secretary of which are selling gradually, once they are all gone that's it. We will continue to stock badges Membership, County, District and St. Piran badges. Price wise Membership are 85p, County and District are 35p and St. Piran are 50p. Quite a few groups have already purchased these.

We now have the means of card payment which makes it easier for parents

Keep supporting the shop and remember you can try it on and change it if it's the wrong size, so please try to buy local.

Gill and Cyril Poad
Scout Shop managers



Events

The Mid Cornwall events team have had a quiet year. All the large scale events we usually put on for Cornish Scouts have had to be cancelled or postponed. Despite keeping a close eye on the changing situations and readiness levels and having plans in place that could adapt events to allow them to run, the restrictions have ultimately meant we've not been able to hold a Beaver challenge, Cub Challenge, Coast to Coast or Kernopoly. The annual Scout and Explorer pilgrimage to Brownsea Island has also not taken place for two consecutive years. And sadly a last minute extension of the restrictions in July, put a stop to the adults skills weekend.

A new SAS section 'SAS events' has been opened on Compass. All our helpers and supporters will be added to this section. This will ensure any adults who don't have a role registered anywhere else can be recorded and we will be able to see that all our events team have up to date mandatory training and DBS checks.

The events team storage container has had a rest from being transported around the county, and with thanks to Mark Tippett has had a new coat of paint applied.

Things are looking better however, to get back on track, Beaver Challenge, Cub Challenge and Coast to Coast are all being planned for September 2021 – there will be a few changes to make sure we operate in a way to keep everybody safe, and limit contact.

Ben Powlesland
SAS Events manager

The District Scout Council wishes to thank Ben, Shaun and the rest of the team behind the events for all the hard work they put into running these events. Far more time and effort goes into the planning stages which is often not seen.

Beavers

Number of Sections	14
Number of Young People	158
Change from previous year	-45
Sections with fewer than 12 young people	7 (50%)

Another year of Covid and lockdowns so less to report on. I have been encouraged by the groups who have continued to engage their beavers by running either a 'scouts at home' programme or over zoom. It's been important to keep in touch and let the beaver scouts and their parents know we are still here and still scouting.

Beavers are celebrating 35yrs this year, The County Beaver leader arranged for each beaver to receive a special badge to celebrate the birthday and also wanted the beavers to plant seeds using flower bombs!. These were distributed to leaders earlier this year. All the beavers would need to do was find an area and throw the bombs and when they land they would split open and the seeds would then burst into flowers. I also sent out a fun quiz, with additional DC challenge to all colonies. I hope the beavers had fun taking part.

I have tried to keep in touch with all the beaver leaders over the pandemic. As soon as I can I hope to visit all the colonies.

It's great to see colonies back up and meeting face to face. It's fair to say there have been some challenges. I'm pleased to hear the Clays have rebuilt a leadership team and that many other colonies are seeing numbers increase as more young people and adults come back to face-to-face scouting.

I was impressed with 1st Newquay's idea of celebrating Captain Sir Tom Moore's 100th birthday with 100 challenges. well done to all the beavers to took part in that.

Chris Sargeant
ADC Beavers

The District Scout Council wishes to extend its thanks to Chris for her continued support of Mid Cornwall Beavers

Cubs

Number of Sections	15
Number of Young People	171
Change from previous year	-99
Sections with fewer than 12 young people	8 (53%)

The District Scout council would like to thank Liza Rogers for her time spent in the role as ADC Cubs and for the support given to The Clays Beaver section recently.

Scouts

Number of Sections	15
Number of Young People	184
Change from previous year	+7
Sections with fewer than 12 young people	8 (53%)

The District Scout Council would like to thank Mark Rogers for his time spent in the role as ADC Scouts, and for the support he continues to give to The Clays Scout group

Explorers

Number of Sections	3
Number of Young People	38
Change from previous year	-1
Sections with fewer than 12 young people	1 (33%)

Not surprisingly, given the Covid pandemic, this has been a disappointing year for Explorers. Although the return in April was initially encouraging with some 20 young people involved at Poseidon ESU, the programme was largely curtailed due to exams, self-isolation demands and a number of the Explorers securing summer jobs. Nevertheless, the Young Leader programme continues to thrive with several Explorers active within the area and particularly at 1st and 5th Newquay. We are expecting several new recruits from Scouts in September and look forward to making a fresh start.

Andy Nash

Poseidon Explorer Scout unit leader

Despite the pandemic and the challenges faced by us all, Mid Cornwall Tinnars have kept in touch with each other and continued scouting, even when not able to meet face to face. This has involved a monthly covid camp where the explorers have camped out in their back gardens. When not in lockdown, the unit has met face-to-face and membership has been good with more explorers joining recently now they can move up from Scout sections. We are camping together over the summer at Portholland, and looking forward to it!

Adam Sweet

Mid Cornwall Tinnars Explorer Scout unit leader

District Accounts

Peter Williams have prepared the end of year accounts. Summary of main points below

District funds

Capitation IN	£ 27,845.00
Bugle Scouts	£ 246.00
Interest	£ 1.00
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	£ 28,092.00

Capitation OUT	£ 26,048.00
Bugle Scouts	£ 180.00
Expenses	£ -
Remembrance	£ 60.00
Insurance	£ 42.00
Sundries	£ 282.00
Jamboree fund	£ 176.00
Accountancy	£ 360.00
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	£ 27,148.00

Surplus/Deficit	£ 944.00
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Jamboree fund

25p from each person's capitation payment is added to the Jamboree fund. This is available for young people to apply to if they attend an international jamboree. The current value of the fund is £1321

Events fund

The events fund (formally Coast to Coast fund) is £5900

Badge Account

The badge stock has been transferred to the Scout Shop and badge account closed down with the balance of the badge account £3310 being transferred to the district funds

Scout Shop

The Scout shop has a value of £9822. £3856 of this is the value of stock held, leaving funds of £5966

Drummers Lodge campsite

The total funds for Drummers Lodge is £13578. £5000 of this is being held as a reserve and as agreed by the executive is being built up to £10000

The district is acting as treasurer for the Clays Scout Group. Funds of £3683 being held in the Events account

Mary Fisher
District Treasurer