

District Commissioner's Report  
Havant District Scout Council AGM June 2021

As you know it is not very long since our last AGM playing catch up due to COVID and we are now back on track albeit unfortunately, still on Zoom. I have everything crossed that as we progress into 2021/2022 that Scouting life will increasingly get back to normal.

Firstly and most important, a huge thanks to all that you do in Havant, you are much appreciated. Whatever role you hold you play a valuable part in helping the young people in Havant to enjoy Scouting. Well done to all involved for getting to grips with the COVID risk assessments at the various readiness levels.

As you know I have been in post since October and it has been very strange not to be able to get out and meet everyone but I hope to do so as and when we can make arrangements and get out to visit you all. I have lots of well earned awards to give out and I now hope to do this face to face as much as possible dependent on circumstances. At the end of the AGM I have a few to present albeit this will be on Zoom but I also feel it is important that you get possession of them as soon as possible. Awards or not you are all very valued members of the Scouting family and together we endeavour to provide the best Scouting opportunities for the young people in the Havant District.

Since October we have had a District Development event which everyone was invited to and all the comments have been looked at and put into a Development plan which will be the basis of what we do as a District going forward. We have old and new members on the District uniformed side of the team and we are still looking for someone for Growth and Development and ADC Scouts. Looking at the increase in enquiries we really need a volunteer leader for growth and a few to join the team to help reach out to as many young people and potential adult volunteers in Havant. We have begun reaching out via our Facebook page and our OSM District waiting list is proving invaluable in parents being able to sign up directly to District and an easy way for us to pass onto the group near to them or one that has space. The District Dashboard is proving useful to help with this too.

Since the Census at the beginning of the year we have increased numbers overall by 18% so far, increasing in all sections apart from Scouts who have dipped a little, but I think it is a really positive sign and hope to increase steadily throughout the rest of this year. We all need to play a part in bringing in new adult volunteers.

We have a new District Youth Commissioner and District Network Commissioner who are beginning to come forward with ideas and information for everyone via Compass emails and Facebook. We need to encourage leaders and parents to sign up to Facebook as another way of communicating and reaching as many as possible. SAS is starting to bring people together to provide activities soon to help groups and events and we are purchasing equipment for all to use for free and we are ensuring the District Centre is used more going forward.

Finally, all I can say is once again, thank you.