

***"Volunteerism is the voice of the people put into action. These actions shape and mould the present into a future of which we can all be proud."* - Helen Dyer**

This quote from Helen Dyer, reflects the aspect of volunteering that makes people step forward as they do to give up their time. The last 18 months or so has had such a profound impact on volunteering at grass roots level, no more so than in our villages of Powick & Callow End. We have now pretty much seen Beavers, Cubs and Scout levels return to pre-pandemic levels, not just with our group, but across the district as well. This is not the same for adult volunteers though, these numbers have still not recovered and they continue to be a challenge at our group and across the region.

The Leaders and Adult volunteers who give up their time as they do, should be proud of what they have achieved and continue to do. Without them we do not have a Scout Group and without them we do not see the young people of our parish flourish, learn new life skills and have fun in the outdoors. Volunteering in whatever form, can give you so much back - as you see the young people respond

favourably to the time you give, it can payback tenfold.

As we reflect on the way we 'bounce back' to 'normal' we have to consider the challenges we face and the speed of any recovery. This is no more important than where we are with our Scout Troop. Since September we have been looking for two, possibly three, new leaders, to take over running Scouts and to date we have not had any enquiries which would provide support on a consistent basis. While some parents have kindly offered help where they can, this does not create the consistency we need with someone at the helm on at least a semi-permanent basis. As such we have not been able to resume the Scout troop and provide a programme of events to get the Scouts outside doing what they enjoy most, Pioneering, Bushcraft skills and Backwoods cooking to name but a few!

If you know of anyone who can help, support the Scouts or even better was a Leader previously, I/we would be very keen to hear from you. We started in Powick & Callow End in 1976 and for 45 years we have been able to keep going. We will again.....this set back can be overcome and we hope to find

support soon.

Anyone interested in whatever form, can contact me for an informal discussion. I/we would love to hear from you.

***"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."* - Gandhi**

As we exit 2021, we look forward to building back stronger in 2022. With our villages growing at their fastest rate since 1976, we need to get Scouts back and then we will look for support with opening Squirrels, a new section for 4-6 years olds which they start ahead of Beavers. We would also like to set up an Explorers section for our over 14-year-olds. All of this depends on adult volunteers getting involved in supporting Scouting in OUR Community.

Finally, it is also important to thank our Leaders who have provided so much support over the past twelve months; we thank those who have departed and moved on, and we thank those who are still actively running Beavers & Cubs - thank you for your commitment.

Have a peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year

From all of us at Powick & Callow End Scout Group

Contacts

Alan Matthews, Chairperson
alan@7thworcesterscouts.org

Cam March, Group Scout Leader
gsl@7thworcester.org

