1st Woodend Scout Group

Report from Our Group Lead Volunteer (GLV) Year 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025

Well that's 49 years of Scouting delivered by the Group, but the local Scouting story did not start in 1975 with the formation of 1st Woodend Scout Group, the Group was actually formed following the merger of 1st Charfield and 1st Cromhall Scout Groups who both were delivering Scouting for many, many years prior to the Groups merging.

When I reflect over the last years achievements and look forward to our 50th Birthday year next year, I cannot help but to also reflect over the 49 years as a whole and my own involvement in the Group for 26 of those 49 years. The Group and its facilities has grown and developed massively over the years and continues to deliver first class Scouting with first class Leadership in a first class setting. Lots of our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts have achieved their Bronze, Silver or Gold Chief Scouts Awards, plus lots of other activity and staged badges. The Sectional programmes continue to deliver many exciting activities, events/ trips and nights away opportunities. Tina Rickwood (Hedge Hog) our Beaver Leader was also recognised this year by the Chief Scout with the Award of Merit, well done Tina.

During the year we have seen some Leadership changes within the Group, We said farewell to Poppy Bulteel (Scout Leader) and Tim Serle (Cub Leader) and welcomed two ex-Leaders back into the Group, Fiona Pegler (Tuesday Beaver Leader) and Matt Hall (Wednesday Cub Leader). We also have Danya Wall who was our Group Chair moving to Wednesday Beavers as a leader and Dan Rickwood moving to Wednesday Cubs from Scouts. I would like to thank all those people for their support both past and present we could not continue to deliver Scouting as a Group without all our wonderful volunteers, Massive Thank you to you all.

It goes without saying that I would particularly like to thank all our fantastic uniformed adult and young leader volunteers, Trustee Board members and other Group supporters for their hard work and dedication. We as a Group have continued to support community events such as the Cromhall Flower Show, Wotton Charities Fayre and Car Parking duties at Tortworth Open Farm plus attendance at the Remembrance Day services and our Group Annual Carol Concert.

With the completion of the works to the floor at our Cromhall HQ. and the maintenance day at Avening Green the Group has completed all the major works to both sites, plus with the agreement and signing of new leases for the Cromhall and Avening sites we are able to reassess our reserves policy and reduce the amount we hold in reserve for ongoing maintenance. I would like to particularly thank Jeremy Dix, Chris and Allison Trueman and Dan Rickwood for their work in carrying out maintenance tasks, grass cutting and maintaining and caring for all our tents, plant and equipment. My thanks must also go my wife Sandra for her work in managing our waiting list and joining process plus the setting up of the Groups new web site, Jess Brereton our Treasurer for her work in moving all the Groups bank accounts to be online rather than paper and last but by no means least to Lindsay Heeley our subs secretary for ensuring all subs are collected and that we claim the much need funds through the Governments Gift Aid scheme. There are many others who support the Group in many different ways so I would like to say massive thank you to you all, your support ensures we keep our Group and its sites viable, safe and operational.

We have a small band of trustees that do a fantastic job in managing and supporting the Group but we really need more help from you! We currently have vacancies for a Group Chair and Secretary, we also need sectional parent reps for Beavers, Cubs and Scouts on our Trustee Board as well as uniformed volunteers to support with Beavers, Cubs and Scouts.

As I said at the beginning of this report, I have been reflecting on my many years with the Group and I have made the decision that it's time for a change and as such next year will be my last year as Lead Volunteer for the Group. My intention is to step back from front line Scouting and move to a supporting non-uniform position once I step down. If there is anybody who would wish to consider or discuss the
Lead Volunteer role to see if its right for them, I are am very willing to meet to discuss the role and support you may need should you would wish to take on this vital position.

Yours in Scouting.

Peter Carnegie – Group Lead Volunteer (GLV)
(aka Tinkerbell and/or Akela)

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