

With COVID restrictions hitting early in 2020, the impact to the group and all its members has been unprecedented. For over a year, Monday meets have been limited to Virtual events on Zoom, and so many organised face-to-face events have not been able to proceed as normal. Over this period, members of the leadership team have worked exceptionally hard to provide fun activities for the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts – to keep them engaged during online sessions. When Covid regulations have allowed, leaders have worked within guidelines to organise fun hikes and other activities – but this is a far cry from what the Scout group would offer in a normal year.

Behind the scenes – hard work from all the leaders and young leaders has been spent organising entertaining quizzes, games and even online camp weekends with a huge number of badges awarded for new skills learnt at home. Endless hours have been spent planning the return of face-to-face meetings, dealing with Red-Amber-Orange-Green Coded guidelines from Government, The Scout Association and the Church.

The group has continued to support the wider community through the period of lockdown, extending the use of the scout minibus to collect food donations from Scout group members to the local foodbank. I would like to thank all for their contributions to this cause, and to those that have volunteered to help with the weekly collection.

Clearly the pressure of Covid has affected everyone, and we know that for some families this means working more hours, often working from home, or struggling with the pressure of furlough or loss of work all together. For this reason, it is vital that we as a group provide support to the young members of the Group – but this is only possible through the collective generosity of the adults that give their time and energy. If you feel that you can support the group in any possible way, then please get in touch there are many ways that you can help!

*J Allen, Chairman*