

GROUP SCOUT LEADER'S REPORT

This year has been a difficult period for our scout group. Rachel decided to stand down as Beaver Scout Leader, for very understandable family reasons, at the end of the summer term. We were not able to recruit enough new leaders to keep the Beaver section running, which unfortunately closed from September.

We have continued to run Cubs and Scouts and currently have enough leaders to staff these sections. However, my own children have now left the group and I am looking to reduce my workload and pass on more responsibilities to other leaders and adult volunteers. Many of our other leaders will soon find themselves in the same situation.

It's vital that we have new leaders coming into the group now to prepare for the changes that lie ahead. I would encourage all parents to consider volunteering with us to help us keep Scouting at Bridestowe. Without enough adult volunteers, the future of our group unfortunately cannot be guaranteed. It really is in your hands.

Of course, at the current time normal face-to-face Scouting sessions are closed due to the lockdown. I have been working with colleagues at West Devon Scouts to deliver 'Scouting at Home' – a series of badges and other challenges our young people can complete at home. We encourage all of you to join in with these activities where possible.

Last but not least, I have to thank all our Leaders and helpers, without whose enthusiasm and commitment we would have no Scout Group. As always, I'm grateful to my long-suffering wife, Nicky, not just for putting up with me, but for keeping the accounts for us. Thanks also to our Secretary and Chairperson and, of course, to all of you for your support.

Simon Miles

May 2020