GROUP SCOUT LEADER REPORT 2019.

THEME – Achievements of our Scout Group

My 2018 theme focused on preparing youngsters with skills for life.  We also launched our Group Plan so that we are clear about what we want to achieve in the future. When you have run successfully for over 25 years, it is easy to become complacent, but our **Executive[[1]](#footnote-1)** and **Leaders[[2]](#footnote-2)** are always keen to examine what we do, look for improvements and keep on aiming for excellence. We make sure our programme is shaped by **young people**[[3]](#footnote-3), that it is top quality and inspires them to succeed. There is no doubt that our ability to meet both at **Barton Hall**[[4]](#footnote-4) and our outdoor meeting place at **Orchard Park Farm**[[5]](#footnote-5) give the Leaders a unique opportunity to put on amazing programmes and camps.

In 2019 my report theme is the achievement of the Group as a whole by checking how we have done against our non-financial Scout Plan objectives this year? Here is a summary:

Focus One – Growth

* Thanks to James Gordon we have a wonderful new website. www.bartonstdavidscout.group
* Sadly, we have not been able to recruit new Leaders. Although some great occasional help from **parents[[6]](#footnote-6)** we struggle now to fill every session with Leaders. Please contact me if you would like more info, we don’t pressurise people into helping but it is enjoyable. A new hobby for someone?

Focus Two – Youth Shaped Activities and Quality Programme

* Our programmes meet or exceed the criteria in the Scout Association’s Quality Checker.
* We have increased the links between Scouts and Explorers
* Youngsters are involved in planning programmes, Codes of Conduct and activities.
* 3 Scouts/Explorers secured a place on an international journey to Eurojam 2020 in Poland

Focus Three – Inclusion.

* Subs remain low because we have sought fundraising from gift aid, Easy Fundraising and grants.
* We have made links with local groups by joint sessions and attending District events.
* We have increased marketing but need to do more in the future

Focus Four - Community Impact and Communications

* We attended Remembrance on the 100 year WW1 anniversary, have had activities in local care homes, community nature areas, benefice walks, Open Farm Sunday, Church Fetes and more

Focus Five – People, Leaders and training

* We haven’t succeeded in recruiting Leaders but continue to seek additional help.
* Training is up to date and another Leader completed his wood badge training
* We have engaged with **District**[[7]](#footnote-7) and **County[[8]](#footnote-8)** Support

Why are we successful? As always there are heartfelt thanks from me throughout this report. Glance through all the people in bold. It highlights for me just how providing top quality Scouting is teamwork with everyone needed to ensure a fantastic result. We have a great future ahead of us.

Vega Sturgess. Group Scout Leader. 16th July 2019

And last but certainly not least my heartfelt thanks go to:

1. Thanks to **Jonathan** as Chairman and **Andy** as Treasurer. Brilliant, top class support. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. **Leaders.** What can I say? They are the best that a GSL could ever hope for. They are committed, amazing and super-heros in my eyes and in the eyes of the parents and children. They underpin the success of the Group. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Our **Young People** have been amazing this year. They work hard, play hard and achieve. They are a credit to parents and Leaders. Please have a look at the Hall of Fame to see their achievements. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Thanks to **Barton Hall Committee** for their support this year [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. **Neil and Emma MacDonald** in sharing so freely the huge resource of Orchard Park Farm. Without it, the entire Group would be much the poorer in all respects. Thanks, thanks and thanks again. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Thanks to **parents** for working with us to support your children in their Scouting journey. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Thanks to **East Somerset District** who provide us with wonderful District events, and a rounded support network. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. Thanks to the **Scout County** for their wider support including training to help our Leaders and for still holding the fort as District Commissioner. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)