

Trustee Board Speech 2024/25
AGM Gt Ellingham (St James) Scout Group

It's been another very busy year. I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to continue to support leading this group to raise funds and increase our visibility. Thanks to everyone's hard work and spreading awareness of our plan, we have raised another £10k into the pot, bringing our overall new hut fund to £40,000 but we still need more.

As you know we have a plan to replace our existing facilities and have all worked incredibly hard to deliver fundraising activities; another round of car boot sales selling bacon rolls, BBQ's, on fireworks night, selling those same famous rolls at the teddy bears picnic and at the primary school summer fete.. it's been another very busy summer for our small but dedicated team. We received donations from local donors and have written to all the local businesses in Gt Ellingham and the Parish Council to ask for financial support and or help with work on the project. We are still waiting on the PC to give us an update, so I look forward to hearing from them soon.

We have submitted grant applications and have reached out to the Scout association for help. We still have plenty more work to do this year, now we have planning permission and already started making arrangements to move the group temporarily in order to start work. We still need to continue actively fundraise and then support will be needed when our builder starts work on the project.

We continue to navigate a new way of working but have struggled to increase recruitment of new trustees to the committee. We always need more help!

We have done our best to continue to maintain the hut and its surrounding areas as best we can, taking into consideration that we are hoping to replace the hut soon.

We must also recognise the great work that our team of leaders and supporters do every single week.. not just running the sessions but all the planning and preparation that goes into it is incredible. Norjam was a perfect example that demonstrated this and they are the ones that make Gt Ellingham (St James) Scout group the great team it is. Thank You.

We look forward to another busy year working alongside these brilliant people and hope that some more of you may consider signing up to help.

Regards

Fran Elliott
Chair Gt Ellingham Scouts