



## **Welcome to the Spring 2023 edition of the Whiteley Woods OAC newsletter**

### **How we are spending our Youth Investment Fund grant**

Earlier this year we were thrilled to be awarded £400,000 from the Youth Investment Fund. Our exciting plans are to replace the old shower block near the adventure course, refurbish Goodwin for groups of up to 12 in four en-suite rooms and work on the roof and other areas requiring repair. As part of our work to refurbish Goodwin, we will also start to reduce our environmental impact.

Work is already underway. The old shower block has been demolished and work on the roof is ongoing. We expect the work on Goodwin to take place from the summer so you might see workmen and equipment on site.

We have a vacancy on our planning group for a young person (under 21) who would like to help us design the look and feel of Goodwin. Anyone interested should email [wwwoacbuildings@girlguidingsheffield.org.uk](mailto:wwwoacbuildings@girlguidingsheffield.org.uk)

It's an opportunity to incorporate your ideas and make a difference!

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## New Activities Co-ordinator



*In recent months we appointed our new activities co-ordinator, Callum Burhouse. He tells us all about himself below – from his Scouting background to his favourite football team.*

As the new activities co-ordinator it's my job to make sure everyone can be provided with the activities they would like to take part in, whether that's making sure you have activity instructors, or instructing myself - so you might see me at some point. I am currently undergoing training to be able to lead all of the activities here at the OAC. And of course, making sure you all have fun doing our onsite activities, while doing them safely! Making sure all our equipment is up to date and safe for you and your units to use is a big part of my role here at the OAC.

So, who am I? Born and bred in West Yorkshire, until I moved to Sheffield last September, I have been within Scouting for 12 years, starting as a Beaver at six years of age, going all the way through the movement till 18 where I was chair of an Explorer unit

executive, being a young leader in the Cub section for three and a half years and now being a Cub section leader in two cub sections. So, you could say Scouting has been a big part of my life for most of it. Outside of Scouting, I am a first-year history student at Sheffield Hallam University, I spend my time following politics and current affairs and I am a supporter of the best football team in Yorkshire, Huddersfield Town. Until I came to Uni, I would follow Huddersfield Town home and away in-between Explorer and Cub camps. I also volunteer for a number of charities, including the Dogs Trust. I also have my Duke of Edinburgh Gold award, achieving this last summer. I also run in my spare time, having completed many Parkruns and a few 10K runs.

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## New Archery Targets



Thanks to the Friends of the OAC we were able to get new archery targets.

They are already being well used. Why don't you come and use them this summer?

An instructor led session can be arranged most days and times.

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## Change of Chair

In April we said goodbye to our chair of Trustees for the last 4 years, Gillian Nottingham. Gillian has expertly led us through the challenge and recovery from Covid, employing a new manager and activities co-ordinator, and worked tirelessly to secure the Youth Investment Fund grant. We are so grateful to Gillian for her leadership, vision and care, which has seen Whiteley Woods go from strength to strength. And we are so pleased that Gillian will be staying on to lead the redevelopment of Goodwin, new toilet facilities and maintenance of our 300-year-old, Grade II listed building.

We welcome Helen Clarke and Jill Sleaford as joint Chairs of Trustees and the Management Committee, and continue to be grateful for all the work carried out by our staff and volunteers to maintain and improve our wonderful site.

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Thank you

The Whiteley Woods OAC Team



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