

District Commissioner Interview: Libby Bassum by Stephen Avis 20th October 2018

Q1: You have been in office as DC for Icknield for 1 year, how has the year gone? Anything as you envisaged it to be?

A: Its gone well, its been far more hectic then I thought it would be and there are definitely not enough hours in the day. I've enjoyed it and I'm still enjoying it, there is a lot of stress with it, more stress than in my previous roll but it is definitely a fun job.

Q2: When you came into the roll was there anything you wanted to change and have you achieved these changes?

A: When I came into the roll I felt the district was a bit flat and in some places it still is, there still is a bit of apathy at times but you would get that in any district. On the whole the leaders on district team I feel have worked with me to get things moving, in some areas we are making progress that I didn't expect to be making progress that I didn't expect to be progressing in by now because I had problems that I didn't know how to solve but they are solving themselves.



Q3: Is there anything in particular or a particular group or activity that has done something to impress you?

A: There's one group that was really struggling when I took over and all I kept getting told was, 'you have to close that group'. They were so small, struggling for leaders. It just wasn't working and that group now has increasing numbers and there is a real buzz in the group, they've got one new leader that's come in now that linking with other groups and using their skills, going on sleepovers with them, going on outings with them and on the whole they seem to be on the up and doing positive things.

Q4: We've had quite a few activities that you have joined in with Falkes with, do you think these activities are working well?

A: I like the joint activities but we are hoping we can open up more of the Icknield ones to Falkes and vice versa because it heightens the competition, if there was a competition at all, it just makes it more fun because they get to meet new people, new experiences.

Q5: What do you think the future holds with you as District Commissioner, do you reckon one group will go really far or do you think you will grow as a district as a whole?

A: Hopefully as a district we will grow, next year's census will be an interesting one because I've only been 3-4 months in post for this year's census so I wasn't to blame if anything went wrong. Hopefully next year will show an improvement in numbers and everything and I feel there has been changes in most groups and I would say that they were for the better, positive. Numbers are going up, we have one group who is completely full and a group who's getting close to being full. Things are going good.

Article by Stephen Avis (YSP Explorer)