

Saying Thank You

Saying thank you and showing appreciation for the things people do is really important: it shows them just how valued they are. A simple 'thank you' or small gesture can really make all the difference to how people feel, and happy, valued people are people who stick around!

There are loads of things you can do to show people they're appreciated but if you're stuck for ideas, here are a few to get you thinking.

A personal touch is always appreciated

- 1. Send a thank you card or letter.
- 2. Give someone a call or even just a text.
- 3. Bake a cake for your exec or leaders.
- 4. Give a parent helper a handmade gift from the young people.
- 5. Send birthday cards to leaders.
- 6. Give out thank you presents at the AGM.
- 7. Tell other people. Passing on praise only adds to the value.
- 8. Find out what sweet treats or flowers they like and send them some.
- 9. Send a packet of seeds to make the thank you last even longer.
- 10. Send them a tea bag and a mug with a card telling them to have a well-deserved cuppa and put their feet up.

Going for group impact

- 1. Hold a summer BBQ.
- 2. Turn up and make a tea/coffee for all the adults.
- 3. Thank people publicly in the Group's newsletter.
- 4. Take photographs at events and pin them up at your HQ.
- 5. Have a coffee morning for those involved.
- 6. Make a video of the young people saying thank you.
- 7. Never leave anyone out.
- 8. Have a Leader of the Week/Month award.
- 9. Provide space and time for people to have a well-deserved break.
- 10. Create an envelope of thank you's from the young people to give to people.

Make it a big deal

- Recognise achievements or hard work with a formal Scout award.
- 2. Tie in your thank you with a special event.
- 3. Throw a surprise party for special occasions like birthdays or retirements.
- 4. Go on a trip.
- Consider permanent signs of appreciation like plaques or printed bricks at your local meeting place.
- 6. Use a press release to spread the recognition even further.
- 7. Send a 'thought you might like to know' letter to the person's employer which acknowledges their contribution or award.
- 8. Ask the District or County Commissioner to thank them.
- 9. Get them a thank you brick on the Gilwell Park Promise Path.
- 10. Nominate them for a local hero award or even an OBE!

