

VOLUNTEERING AT **BIBBYS FARM**



Bibbys Farm Scout Camp Site and Activity Centre
Charnock Back Lane, Heath Charnock, Chorley, PR6 9DL

Telephone: 0300 30 20 007

www.bibbysfarm.org.uk



@BibbysFarmScout



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Welcome

"Bibbys Farm was created by volunteers, developed by volunteers and to this day is very much a voluntary operation which happens to employ a few staff too.

We were delighted to be awarded the Queens Award for Voluntary Service in 2016 - this is the equivalent of the MBE for voluntary groups!

In the early days, and for many years since then, a core number of dedicated volunteers had the vision to see what Bibbys Farm might become and they worked tirelessly to create the fantastic and unique site that it has become today.

Over 20,000 children and young people visit us each year so that they can enjoy camping in the outdoors and take the opportunity to try new activities creating unforgettable memories for the future. An increasing number have additional needs and we are one of the few sites able to cater for them.

To carry on and build on the achievements of the last 15 years, we need more help: that could mean you! Whether you are able to give some of your time and expertise once a year, once a month or anything in between, whether you feel that none of your skills is particularly useful or whether you are a qualified tradesperson prepared to help out when required, everyone is welcome.

Read on to find out more about how you could help us and how, in return, that might help you.

Come along and have a look: a warm welcome is guaranteed, and the kettle is always on."



Volunteering



There are many flexible ways of volunteering at Bibbys Farm and more than one of them is bound to match your available skills and the time you have available to volunteer.

These are just a few of them and there are more details further on in this booklet:

- Adult Service
- Junior Service
- Crew
- Wardens
- Instructors
- Entertainments
- Events
- Water
- Plant & Engineering
- Thursday Club
- Friday Greeters
- Quartermaster
- Catering
- D-of-E Gold
Residentials
- Fundraising
- Specialists



What's Involved

Adult Service

Adults (Generally Scouters and/or Guiders) who will spend the weekend as our Service Team, working with more experienced Crew or Wardens cleaning toilets etc but also undertaking projects such as tree planting, building maintenance, clearing ditches etc. Would work on a rota with a minimum of one weekend a year but could do more. Ideal for leaders from a group who can use the opportunity to bond as a team whilst "giving something back". Adult Service Teams stay in our Scandinavian Log Cabin – Forest Lodge



Junior Service

Explorers or even older Scouts that would work as a Service Team along with their leaders and similar to the adult service teams in relation to the scope of jobs to do. Junior Service Teams would usually camp and so operate from Easter to the end of September. Usually we can find indoor accommodation for the adult leaders if required.

Crew

People who have generally come through the Service Team route who want to become more regular volunteers. They would undergo the Crew training scheme and be awarded their green polo shirt on completion. Would stay in Crew quarters and help supervise Service Teams to get their jobs done. Crew would have more experience and responsibility due to their more regular attendance.

Wardens

People who have given considerable service over the years and know the site inside-out.



Would also be key-holders and are capable of running the site if required. Will provide on a rota cover each weekend to support other volunteers and be “that knowledgeable person” that can support Service Team members and Crew when they need support

Instructors

A large team of people that provide activity instruction as and when required and respond to our Monday morning pleas for help. We feed these people and they are welcome to stay over if they wish but generally just provide daytime support as needed.



Entertainments

This team provide technical support with sound, lighting and effects for our larger events and district camps that wish to utilise their services. We have a large range of staging, lighting and PA equipment and bring in other equipment and effects for bigger events.

Events

Managed by a small committee that run our programme of events and courses throughout the year. These people support those events just for the day or stay over for the full weekend to help set up and put away afterwards.



Water

Our water activity instructors that wish to do a bit more and help to develop water sports at Bibbys Farm playing their part in developing new activities and maintaining the facilities and equipment we have for the water.

Plant & Engineering

Headed up by Geoff and Steve, there may be others who fancy joining that team to support us with engineering repairs, big jobs requiring tractor & digger drivers etc. This team also runs our Scout “Mechanics Badge” course throughout the year.



Thursday Club

A team of ad-hoc people who attend on a Thursday daytime to undertake service projects around site and assist with minor repairs and getting the site ready for the weekend.

Friday Greeters

A team of Scouters/Guiders who on a rota cover each Friday evening during the main season to greet our campers when they arrive, welcome them, show them to their site and get them to complete the fire book and provide whatever support they need.

Quartermaster

A team of people with knowledge of our activities and equipment who can man our stores to issue and book back in equipment for all the activities running throughout the day. No knowledge needed as training will be given.

Catering

Our small team of catering specialists are always looking for new people to join their team. Fancy yourself as the next Bake-Off champion? Why not join this little team and also take away some new skills for next time you are wondering about how to go about feeding your entire Group?

D-of-E Gold Residentials

Those doing D-of-E or QSA need to do a residential and we can accommodate people who wish to do that here. They act as a Crew member doing either a midweek or a couple of weekends to cover the requirements of the award and undergo some training and a look at the wider operation of the Centre in addition to just cleaning toilets etc.





Fundraising

A group of people who generally work from home putting together funding applications to support our projects and developments.

Specialists

The above are our day to day groups of people who all support Bibbys Farm in a whole variety of ways. In addition to them, we have various specialists who kindly offer their professional skills such as trades people, architects, accountants etc. Whatever skills you have or whatever time you have available, there is a role, small or large just waiting for you at Bibbys Farm. We are also experienced at hosting Corporate volunteer days where teams of employees from a Company spend the day assisting with a project as part of their corporate responsibility.

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The benefits of volunteering

In addition to the great feeling you get from being a volunteer, we have a great team bond that extends our family of friends to make everyone feel welcome and valued.

Food: Anyone volunteering has their meals provided. This comes at a cost to us but we feel people certainly earn their food. Every one of our teams from Service Teams to Corporate Volunteers have all their meals and hot drinks provided whilst they are on-site volunteering. We can't run to steak & lobster but we certainly don't let people go hungry!

Accommodation: For those volunteers staying overnight, we have various options for accommodating people. The Crew have their own building and our log cabin, Forest Lodge, is used for Adult Service Teams or other teams when available.

Training: People who want to become an instructor need to complete the appropriate training and we offer this free of charge for existing volunteers and on a system where we pay back in instalments to those people who are new to volunteering with us.

CV Information: Employers these days look beyond the basics when selecting people for employment and including volunteering within your CV is a great way to stand out amongst the crowd and show that you "Have something about you"



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