

Lower Whitegate Farm
Whitegate Road
Holmbridge
Holmfirth
HD9 2TH

Holme Valley Parish Council
Holmfirth Civic Hall
Huddersfield Road
West Yorkshire
HD9 3SA

29th November 2019

Dear sirs,

I am writing to you as a representative of the 8 Holme Valley Scouts who trekked in the Dolomites and would like to thank you for your contribution of £720 towards our incredible adventure.

We had a fantastic time hiking through the mountains of Italy and making many new friends from across West Yorkshire. We are all very grateful for your generous benefaction and would like to share our experience with you. Our fundraising journey began with a small tombola at a summer fair and progressed to bag packs at the local supermarkets, a curry night and magic meal, to receiving donations and grants from local supporters, culminating with a 200 person band in the barn grand finale.

Our expedition started months before the flights were even booked, at the training weekends. These sessions were essential to ensure that the young people on the trip all had an enjoyable time. We did 4 training camps in total, where we went cycling, hiking and visited the mine at the national coal mining museum. The training was amazing, and well worth it – we met the people we would be experiencing the wonders of the Dolomites with, got tasters of the kinds of things we would be doing, got a feel for our fears and learnt each other's physical capabilities. The money that you donated towards our fundraising was crucial to ensuring that we were all able to go on these nights away and better develop our understanding of the trip.

Once in Italy we climbed up to a whopping 2752 meters over a four day trek. Sleeping at altitude in refuges we were able to see the extraordinary sun rise over the mountains reflecting beautifully on the famous Marmolada – wow! We caught a glance of marmots and ibex's and came across a meadow filled with Edelweiss – what a rare phenomenon it was! The hiking was tough going, often on narrow paths and using ropes for safety. After four days at high altitude we descended back to Cortina through the World One Tunnels. Fears conquered, memories made and friendships to last forever!

Thank you once again for your generous donation!

Yours sincerely
Anna Colwill
Holme Valley and West Yorkshire Dolomites Scout Troop

