

# YOU'VE JOINED A WINNING TEAM.

Information, support and resources  
for your role in Scouting



# WELCOME

Thank you for recently agreeing to take on the role as a Leader or Section Assistant in our Scout Group. This booklet gives you a brief overview of Scouting in our local area, key contacts, and an idea of what you will be doing and what resources and help you should receive.

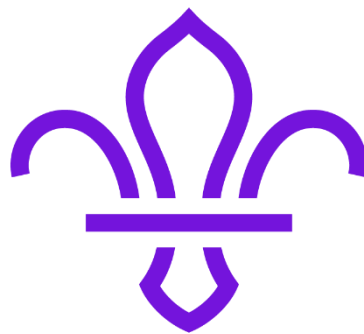
The 52nd Reading Scout Group aims to offer challenge and adventure to all its members. We believe in helping our young people fulfil their potential by working in teams, learning by doing and thinking for themselves. We're working to make Scouting available to as many young people as we can and we're passionate about what we do.

Through the adventure of Scouting, young people get to take risks in a safe environment, and have their first taste of responsibility. We give young people experiences they will never forget. The sort of adventure we offer is the chance to experience something different and the opportunity for young people to discover their potential. When a Beaver Scout wakes up the morning after a sleepover, or a Cub Scout has just got over her fear of heights by completing her first wall climb – that's adventure.

All this is made possible by the efforts of our dedicated team of hard working voluntary adults. The National training scheme and support within our Group ensures that each of our volunteers gets to make the best use of their skills and talents.

Our adults have a responsibility to make our Programme fun and exciting. They also make sure that it is safe. Our policies, rules, code of behaviour and advice on child protection and safety are there to ensure our young people stay safe while they enjoy themselves and learn.

Thanks once again, and welcome aboard!



# Scouts

## 52nd Reading

# EVERYDAY ADVENTURE



## 52nd Reading Scout Group

Led by: Tim Fitz-Desorgher (Hathi)  
Email: [gsl@52ndreadingscoutgroup.org.uk](mailto:gsl@52ndreadingscoutgroup.org.uk)

The 52nd Reading Scout Group was started in November 1925 and attracts young people from all around the local area. There are well over 100 young people and adult members in the Group which is one of several Scout Groups in Reading Central District, in the County of Royal Berkshire.

The Group is made up of the following sections:



## Beaver Scout Colony 6 – 8 years

Led by: Hayley Underwood (Koko)  
Email: [bsl@52ndreadingscoutgroup.org.uk](mailto:bsl@52ndreadingscoutgroup.org.uk)



## Cub Scout Pack 8 – 10 ½ years

Led by: Rachel Fitz-Desorgher (Akela)  
Email: [csl@52ndreadingscoutgroup.org.uk](mailto:csl@52ndreadingscoutgroup.org.uk)



## Scout Troop 10 ½ – 14 years

Led by: Phil Hargreaves (Skip)  
Email: [sl@52ndreadingscoutgroup.org.uk](mailto:sl@52ndreadingscoutgroup.org.uk)

Our Young People may continue their Scouting by joining:



## Rockhoppers Explorer Scout Unit 14 – 18 years

Led by: Tiago Quintino  
Email: [esl@52ndreadingscoutgroup.org.uk](mailto:esl@52ndreadingscoutgroup.org.uk)

All of our sections meet at:

Reading Scout & Guide Headquarters  
163 Northcourt Avenue  
Reading  
RG2 7HG

# THINGS YOU WILL NEED TO CHECK OUT

All adult volunteers regularly involved with Scouting are required to have successfully completed a Disclosure check carried out by the team at our main headquarters (Gilwell Park) and by the Disclosure and Barring Service; your Section Leader will help you to complete this check.

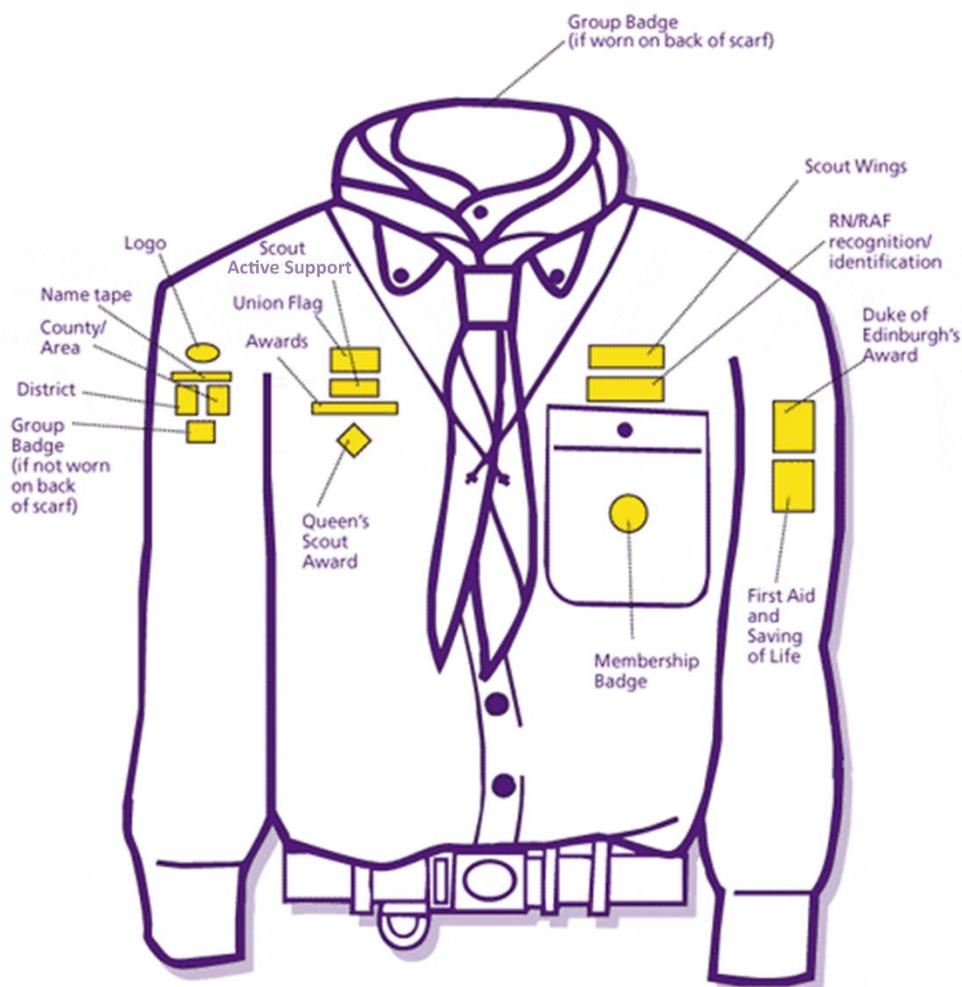
Your rest of your application will be processed by the District Appointments Secretary who may contact you to arrange a meeting with the Appointments Advisory Committee. This is a relatively informal discussion with three members of the District Team who will ask you some questions about why you chose to get involved, what you know about Scouting and to make sure you understand the commitment you're making. It's really nothing to worry about!

**If you're a Leader, or if you want to do so as a Section Assistant, now's the time to get into uniform.**

You can purchase your uniform from The Scout & Guide Shop which is inside to the left of our HQ building.

The cost of your first uniform will be refunded by The Group and, if you're not sure what you need, your Section Leader will be able to help you.

## The Adult Uniform:



# TRAINING

As part of your role you will receive training to help you gain the skills that you need. The Scout Association operates a flexible, modular Adult Training Scheme, which takes into account any relevant knowledge or skills you already have.

You will be supported through your training by your Training Advisor, who will help you to prepare a Personal Learning Plan and, subsequently, complete any necessary validations of your learning.

## Getting Started

For all leader and section assistant appointments, the essential bits of training that you will need to complete (also known as Getting Started) are **Safety, Safeguarding, GDPR** plus **Essential Information** and **Tools for the Role**. All these modules are available online.

**You must complete your 'Getting Started' training and validations within 5 months of starting your role.**

## Investiture

On completion of 'Getting Started', if you are a leader or you choose to do so as a Section Assistant, you are now ready to be invested as an adult member of the Scout Association, and your Section Leader will let you know when this will take place.

This ceremony is similar to the one for our young people and it will require you to say one of the available Scout Promises - the two most common forms are shown here:

<i>On my honour, I promise that I will do my best To do my duty to God and to The Queen, To help other people And to keep the Scout Law</i>	or	<i>On my honour, I promise that I will do my best To uphold our Scout values, to do my duty to the Queen, To help other people And to keep the Scout Law</i>
---	----	--

## Wood Badge

As a leader, once you're in your role, make time to do the training needed for your Scouting learning and development ... getting your Wood Badge is a good feeling!

**You are required to complete your Wood Badge training and validations within 3 years of starting your role.**



# WHERE TO GO FOR MORE INFORMATION

## Resources

There is a wealth of information and resources available to support you in your role, here are some you may find useful!

Group website	<a href="http://52ndreadingscoutgroup.org.uk">52ndreadingscoutgroup.org.uk</a>
District website	<a href="http://readingscouts.org.uk">readingscouts.org.uk</a>
County website	<a href="http://berkshirescouts.org.uk">berkshirescouts.org.uk</a>
Scout Association website	<a href="http://scouts.org.uk">scouts.org.uk</a>

## The Scout Information Centre

The Information Centre is based at Gilwell Park and provides a single point of contact if you are seeking information or resources relating to any aspect of Scouting. You may contact them via the Scout Association website (chat) or email [info.centre@scout.org.uk](mailto:info.centre@scout.org.uk)

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## Will I get paid?

The Scout Association is a voluntary organisation, and you will not be paid for your role. However, no adult should feel that cost prohibits them from taking up a role in Scouting, and we are committed to reimbursing out of pocket expenses for all volunteers. You should speak to your Section Leader to find out how this works.

## Where does religion fit into Scouting?

The Scout Movement includes members of many different faiths and religions as well as those with no formal religion. All members of our Group are encouraged to explore and be tolerant of one another's faith, beliefs, cultures and attitudes.

## Who is responsible for administering first aid if there is an accident?

All trained adult leaders in Scouting should have an up to date first aid certificate of First Response level or equivalent and are responsible for the young people in their care. On a camp or activity, one person should be designated first aider. If an incident requires any consultation with or treatment by a doctor, dentist or hospital the Information Centre should be notified.

## What insurance do I have?

All members of The Scout Association have personal accident insurance and legal liability cover whilst on Scouting activities. You can talk to our Treasurer if you have any questions.

## Can I take young people on camp straight away?

Every residential event for young people in Scouting must be led by someone who holds a Nights Away Permit, while other leaders attending the event do not need one. Speak to your Section Leader to find out more about this.