# **Current Vacancies**

We are currently looking for parents to help us in the following roles:

**Beaver Colony Assistants** — to help on a rota basis of two or three evenings per month

**Cub Pack Assistants** — to attend on a rota basis of two or three evenings per month

**Scout Troop Assistants** - to attend on a rota basis of two or three evenings per month

If you are interested in helping to run a new, Beaver colony on a different evening of the week, then please contact Richard (Chair) on 07767 476407

# THE 12<sup>th</sup> WINCHESTER (GREEN JACKETS) SCOUT GROUP







# Welcome to the Winchester 12<sup>th</sup> (Green Jackets) Scout Group.

This introductory pack aims to answer the most important questions you will have as a prospective new member of our Group or as the parent or carer of one. If there is something missing, please let your section leader know. And if you need any more information about any aspect of Scouting then please speak to one of the section leaders or helpers, who will be happy to answer your question or point you in the right direction.

### Who are we?

#### **Our Scout Group has three sections:**

**Beaver Scout Colony** — meets Tuesdays at 5pm

**Cub Scout Pack** — meets Wednesdays at 6.30pm

**Scout Troop** — meets Fridays at 7pm

Many of our Scouts then go on to join one of the Explorer Scout units in Winchester. Many of them return to become Young Leaders within our Scout Group, often as part of their work towards the Duke of Edinburgh award.

You will find more detail about each section in the accompanying booklet "From Abseiling to Zorbing".

#### PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

Although our history is important to us, our future is where our focus needs to be.

In one important way, the 12th Winchester Green Jackets are extremely lucky to have had leaders with the foresight and ambition to lease part of the Winnall Railway Cutting and build their own HQ building with plenty of space. Owning our own HQ is a very substantial asset that few Groups have and gives us scope to expand.

We know that demand for Scouting in Winchester is very high and growing quickly. We currently provide for around seventy young people at the 12<sup>th</sup>, but in scouting terms the HQ is very under used, with only three meetings a week.

Our ambition now is to double the size of our Group, with two of each Section rather than one. If you know of anyone who would be interested in helping to lead a new Beaver Colony at the 12th then please send them our way!

The new Section will be able to meet on a day of their choice, and would start with just 12 members.

# Further Information on Scouting

Our Scout Group: 12thwinchesterscouts.org.uk

Winchester Scout District: winscouts.org.uk
Scout Association: scouts.org.uk

# Help - Your Scout Group Needs You!

Scouting does not happen without the help and support of parents and carers of the young people in the Group.

All of our Leaders and other helpers are unpaid volunteers. Most of them have children in our Group or have previously had children in the Group. Without them we could not continue and we are always on the look-out for parents and carers to join us.

Don't assume this isn't your kind of thing ...

We know that most parents have little or no Scouting background, and between ourselves and Winchester District we provide a comprehensive training and support program for everyone involved. Scouting is fun, very rewarding and not all of it is out-doors or adventurous!

Don't assume you don't have enough time ...

Many hands really do make light work. If six or more parents share the running of a section, no-one has to be there every week or commit more time than they can really afford.

Don't assume you can't afford to help ...

Although as a volunteer you are unpaid, we reimburse directly incurred costs, including your first leader's uniform.

And finally, don't assume we don't need more help ...

We are not always very good at approaching parents for help, although we are trying to improve, but we are always happy to welcome new leaders and helpers.

Please speak to your section leader if you are interested

#### Who is who?

It takes a lot of people to run a Scout Group. You will find our photos up in the HQ to help you to recognise us, but here are the main points of contact you will need:

**Each section** has a uniformed leader, assistant leader and section assistants. There will often also be one or more uniformed Young Leaders.

Beaver Colony Leader - Ladybird (Clare Talks) 01962 855659

Cub Pack Leader - Akela (Andy Knowles) 01962 867440

Scout Troop Leader - tbc

The Overall leader of our Group is the Group Scout Leader (GSL) - David Bannister

**The administration** of the Group is carried out by a board of Trustees.

Chair - Richard Eve 07767 476407

Treasurer - Lars Calvert

Secretary - Karen Parker

We are also assisted by a Membership Secretary, Health and Safety Rep, Media and PR Member, Community Liaison Member and Fund-raising Member.

Last but not least, we strongly encourage all parents to join in the fun as Occasional Helpers.

#### What do I need to do?

#### **Provide Your Contact Details**

It is very important that we always have your up-to-date contact details, including phone number and email address, and details of any relevant medical conditions affecting your child.

We enter this information into our Online Scout Manger system, which we also use to send you information emails and texts, and to manage subscriptions.

We recognise that your privacy is very important and so we take our data protection obligations seriously. The Scout Association is registered under the Data Protection Act 1998 (the Act). As a Group, the 12th Winchester is subject to, and adheres to, the provisions of the Act. If you would like further information please see: members.scouts.org.uk/supportresources/1861/data-protectionand-scouting

#### Pay a subscription

Subscriptions are currently £180 a year. As well as activities, this covers our Group Expenses (such as insurance and heating), our Group contribution to the Scouting Association and towards upkeep of the Winchester District campsite ("Pinsent").

We will send you an email with instructions on setting up automatic payments. These due at the start of each term.

Special events such as overnight camps, will cost a small amount extra but there may be financial help available if needed.

#### Scout Council and AGM - April

As a registered charity that is lucky enough to own a purpose built HQ, we have a board of trustees to manage the property and finances for the Group. We have a short AGM and review each year which we combine with a fun event such as a BBQ or Family Camp and our annual presentation of awards and trophies. Every parent is automatically a member of the Scout Council we encourage you to attend this important and enjoyable annual event.

#### Carol Service - December

We alternate each year between a service at All Saints Church, and one at our HQ. Each section puts together a short presentation for the Group, based on a chosen theme, and we finish with a get together over mulled wine and mince pies.



#### ANNUAL EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY

#### Remembrance Sunday - November

Because of our past links with the Royal Green Jackets Regiment (now part of the Rifle Brigade), the 12<sup>th</sup> are proud to be invited to lay a wreath at the war memorial outside the cathedral alongside past and present members of the regiment. We are the only Scout Group in Winchester to have this honour.

This is probably the most important tradition of our year at the 12<sup>th</sup> and we encourage as many of our members as possible to attend the short and moving outdoor ceremony.

#### St George's Day Parade - April

This is the most significant event in the Scouting calendar in Winchester, and involves all scout groups in the district coming together in a parade through the City Centre for a service in the cathedral. Each year a different scout group organises the event.

#### Summer Camp - August

This is a particular highlight of the year for the Scout Troop and Cub Pack, with a week away at a different location each year. Recent years have seen trips to Guernsey, the Lake District, Sussex and Somerset for a programme of outdoor activities.

#### **Beaver Camp**

Not to be outdone, the Beaver colony has themed sleepovers during the year, and an annual weekend camp at an activity centre near Winchester.

We are a registered charity and so ask that you complete a Gift Aid form if you are a UK taxpayer. This should be handed to the Treasurer or your section leader.

#### Get a uniform

Every young person needs a uniform before they are formally invested (makes the Scout Promise and joins the Group)

The Group provides your child's necker (scarf) and badges, and the remaining uniform can be purchased either online or in a shop.

A local Scout shop is open on Thursdays between 6pm and 8pm and on Saturdays between 2 and 4pm and stocks uniform that can be tried on for size:

14th Eastleigh Scout HQ, Allbrook Hill, Eastleigh, SO50 4LY

#### eastleigh-scouts.org.uk/scout-shop

Your section leader may also have a small stock of second hand uniform available on request, and will always be happy to add to their stock with good quality seconds.

# DBS (CRB)

The protection of young people in Scouting is paramount. All leaders are fully DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) cleared at regular intervals, and Scout Association rules mean that in order to provide occasional help on evenings and outings, and to attend overnight events such as family camps you will need to complete a DBS (CRB) application.

We regret that the Scout Association is unable to accept existing DBS clearance, and insists on requesting it's own checks with the DBS.

We encourage all parents/carers to obtain DBS clearance as early as possible as the checks can take some weeks to process at busy times.

To obtain clearance, you should contact the Group Chair or Membership secretary who will initiate the request for you.



# **Pinsent campsite**

As part of the Winchester Scout District, we have access to the Pinsent campsite on the west side of Winchester.

Whether your young person is in the Beaver, Cubs or Scouts, they will often hold their weekly meeting at Pinsent, particularly during the summer months.

Pinsent is about 2 miles outside Winchester, on Weeke Down. Access is via Clarendon Way, off Sarum Road. Clarendon Way is a single track lane which does get very congested with traffic when a large number of cars are coming and going to and from Pinsent. Please be considerate to our neighbours along this road, and lift share wherever possible.

The campsite address is Weeke Down, Clarendon Way, Winchester, SO22 5QL.

Pinsent is the jewel in the crown of Winchester District Scouts. The campsite comprises six acres of woodland with individual patrol areas, a central assembly/activity area and a large camp fire site. Facilities include a toilet block with showers. Efforts to fund raise for new improved facilities are currently underway.

The site was at first rented in 1931 by Major John Pinsent for use by his Scout Troop at Winchester College. Major Pinsent purchased the site in June 1935 and donated it to Winchester Scouting.

A small amount of the subscription you pay is used for the upkeep of Pinsent, which is cared for by volunteers. We hope you will be able to spare half a day every now and then to help us maintain this amazing facility.