



# Scouts 1st Olveston Scout Group.

1st Olveston Scout Group, founded in 1914, aims to build and develop young people's confidence, sense of adventure and outdoor skills, as well as encouraging them to explore their beliefs and attitudes, while creating opportunities to be creative. Scouting offers young people a safe space to develop their independence, putting incrementally learnt skills into practice while at regular meetings, camps and even while taking part in organised international trips.

"Scouting is about skills for life," the physical, intellectual, social and spiritual well-being of young people aged 6–14 years, based on the principles of the UK Scout Association. <http://scouts.org.uk>

Scouts is a worldwide organisation with over 54 million Scouts and Guides involved in 216 countries. 1st Olveston Scout Group is part of Cotswold Edge District (made up of 18 Scout Groups, 7 Explorer Units and 1 Young Leader Explorer Unit) which lies within the County of Avon (which is one of the UK's largest Scouting communities with over 13,000 members and 2,000 volunteers involved!)

**1st Olveston Scout Group is divided into three Sections:**

**Beaver Scouts** (age 6–8), **Cub Scouts** (age 8 – 10½) and **Scouts** (age 10½ – 14).

Our Scout Hut is also used by the "**Endeavour**" **Explorer Scout Unit**, which provides Scouting for girls and boys aged 14–18 years old living in the Alveston, Olveston and Thornbury area run by our local Scout District: <http://www.avonscouts.org.uk/get-involved/join-the-scouts/explorer-scouts/> (Guides, our "sister" but separate organisation, also meet at our Hut.)

Each Section is run by a team of volunteer Leaders, who are trained through the Scout Association (this training includes first aid, with options to progress with specialist training for leading at overnights or camps, instructor-ratings for archery, rifle-shooting, climbing etc.) and all adults who lead or regularly help at meetings have to pass regular Criminal Record Checks and peer review panel interviews too.

Subscription to 1st Olveston Scout Group for each young person is £13\* per month - valid at September 2023. (\*There is a small bursary, available by application, to help those families of young people that might benefit from a little financial assistance, with the aim of enabling their young person to take part in Scouting fully.)

Within Scouting, one of the main aims is to be able to include all young people who wish to attend. To facilitate this, as required, carers or parents may need to assist the volunteer Leaders so that their young people get the most from the activities. Most usually, the young people that attend our Scout Group (both girls and boys) live locally in the Parish of Olveston or go to school within the Parish. All Sections usually meet weekly during term-time at our purpose-built Scout Hut at the top of Old Down Hill, on part of the Village Green adjacent to the Football Pitch.

Each Section runs a varied programme of activities and events throughout each school term.

**Beaver Scouts**, activities include games, making things, cooking, exploring the outdoors & sleepovers.

**Cub Scouts** enjoy camping, campfire cooking, games, hikes, cycle adventures, climbing, archery, rifle-shooting, rafting, kayaking, day trips, visits and heaps of outdoor activities.

**Scouts** love to do anything outdoors; outdoor games, camping, lighting fires, outdoor cooking, night hikes, surfing, skiing, canoeing, climbing and ice-skating, to name just a few activities!

**Explorers** take part in a huge range of activities; caving, mountain biking, gliding, scuba diving, cooking, camping, Ten Tors, Duke of Edinburgh Award Schemes, social and community events and may undertake additional Scouts Young Leader Training Courses.

Most usually, Leaders are “home-grown” from the Group. They are usually parents of children attending, who are willing to have fun, learn new skills and give up a few hours a week to facilitate young people learning and developing skills for life. (No previous experience needed, just a cheery outlook, a love of the outdoors and heaps of energy!)

Parents/carers/guardians are very much welcomed and encouraged to support the Section that their child is in by helping with meeting activities (usually on a parent-rota) perhaps baking a cake and actively with fundraising, perhaps once a year or so.

Adults who would prefer a “backstage” but crucial support role often join the 1st Olveston Scout Group Board of Trustees who run and oversee the administration of the Group; help with small maintenance jobs to keep the Hut and surrounding area clean and safe for the young people, as well as organising fundraising events, which enable trips and further activities for the Young People to take place.

We are also fortunate to be close to “Woodhouse” the Avon County Adventurous Activity Area and Campsite at Woodhouse Park on Fern Hill and we use their facilities regularly.

We also take part in activities organised and run by Cotswold Edge District Scouts and Avon County Scouts so that we can meet Scouts from other Groups and take part in additional activities. These recently, have included camping, Scout Jamborees, rifle-shooting competitions and cooking competitions and St George’s Day celebrations

*(St. George is the patron saint of Scouting - In 'Scouting for Boys', the founder of Scouting, referred to the Knights of the Round Table in the Arthurian Legend, and to St George who was their Patron Saint. He then went on: 'He is also the Patron Saint of Scouts everywhere. Therefore, all Scouts should know his story.)*

But, above all, we all love to have fun, have adventures and try new things!

**If your child would like to join us or if you are interested in becoming involved or would like to help as a Leader, please contact:**

**SCOUTS**

**Scout Leader:** Simon Richardson “Hawk” [simon.richardson@cesd.org.uk](mailto:simon.richardson@cesd.org.uk)

**CUBS**

**Cub Scout Leader:** Hannah Cameron “Akela” [Hannah.Cameron@cesd.org.uk](mailto:Hannah.Cameron@cesd.org.uk)

**BEAVERS**

**Beaver Scout Leader:** Helen Mansi “Hedgehog” [helencrowe@hotmail.com](mailto:helencrowe@hotmail.com)

For more information about other age groups including **Explorers** or for volunteering as an adult in Scouts, you can find details here on the Scout District pages [Cotswold Edge Scout District \(cesd.org.uk\)](http://Cotswold Edge Scout District (cesd.org.uk))