

6000 Young People have fun and adventure with Berkshire Scouts

A recent census has shown that over 6000 young people aged 6 to 25 across Berkshire are getting fun and adventure from Scouting. Berkshire Scouts provides activities every week in well over a hundred locations from Hungerford and Newbury in the west to Slough in the East and from Reading in the North to Bracknell and Sandhurst in the South.

The photo shows Explorer Scouts (for young men and women aged 14 to 18) from Taceham Hundred District in Berkshire during their snowboarding trip to Switzerland. This is just one of many hundreds of expeditions and trips undertaken by young people under the guidance of over 1500 Adult Volunteers.

The census shows that the [Scout Network](#) a new programme for 18 to 25 year olds has increased its membership by a massive 250% since 2004.

There are also significant increases in numbers in [East Reading](#), [Maidenhead](#) and [Pang Valley](#) and numbers are more or less steady in [South East Berkshire](#), [Taceham Hundred](#), [Windsor & Eton](#) and [Wokingham](#).

With Eurojam, a huge international experience for 20,000 Scouts and Explorer Scouts this summer and the centenary celebrations in 2007 it is a great time to be involved in Scouting.

There are a number of opportunities for Adult Volunteers to get involved in a number of ways, some as front-line leaders working with young people, others in support and backroom roles. Berkshire Scouts is in the second year of a highly successful Adult training and Support Programme. This provides opportunities for networking and sharing ideas as well as helping volunteers to develop the skills required. The programme is validated by the Open College Network and so volunteers get an extra qualification as well as developing their own skills and expertise.

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For more information see Berkshire Scouts Web Site www.berkshirescouts.org.uk

Berkshire Scouts is part of the Scout Association which itself is part of the World Organisation of Scout Movements, the largest co-educational youth movement in the world and in the UK.

It contributes to the fulfilment of their potential using a progressive and enjoyable values-based programme for personal development. It provides a programme of fun, friendship and adventure for young people aged 6 to 25. There is an emphasis on outdoor adventure and helping others.

In Berkshire there are 7,7717 (2005 annual census) young people and adults enjoying a wide range of Scouting activities. Scouting is mainly provided through over 120 local Scout Groups and District-based Explorer Scout Units.

