



BENTLEY COPSE ACTIVITY CENTRE



VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Bentley Copse Activity Centre, Hound House Road, Shere, Surrey, GU5 9JH
Office : 01483 202424 | bookings@bentleycopse.org.uk

Volunteering



Volunteering Opportunities

As well as the options described within this document we would love to hear from you if you would like to contribute to our charitable aims.

Registered charity number : 305819



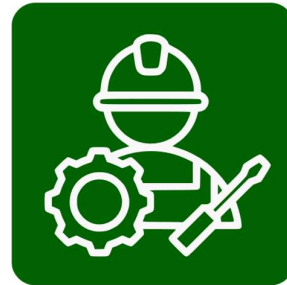
Over 100 years of volunteering

Volunteers have been at the heart of Bentley Copse since 1918. By adapting to our visitors' changing needs, our thriving volunteer community makes a vital contribution to everything we do.



Service Crew

Join our regular on-site team.



Work Experience

Placements for school and college students.



Corporate Days

Team-building & community volunteering for your company.



Scout Service Badges

Help Scouts and Explorers earn their Centre Service Badge.

Service Crew



Bentley Copse Service Crew

Our volunteer “Crew” tackles everything from routine maintenance to major projects. Many of our achievements wouldn’t be possible without their dedication.



Crew Days and Events

We have a monthly crew day, usually the second Saturday of the month. These days provide the crew opportunities to assist with activities or undertake project work on the site.

A social meal (such as summer BBQs) finish off most crew days.

We hold three large weekend events a year (Beavers Go Wild, Cubs Chaos and Frost Camp) where we rely on volunteers more than ever!



Project Week

Each year we tend to organise a week long volunteering project. *Tree Week* is one recent example where volunteers supported the site undertaking forest management.



Surrey Scouts

All crew members are part of scouting and part a dedicated team within Surrey Scouts. For some their contribution to Bentley Copse is their only involvement in Scouting, for others they will run their own packs or troops either in Surrey or another county.



Uniform and Training

Free Bentley Copse uniform for all regular volunteers.

In-house training plus opportunities for external qualifications (e.g., chainsaw operation, NGB activity awards).



Enquiries

Email bookings@bentleycopse.org.uk or call 01483 202424 to arrange a time to come by and have a chat.

Work Experience



Schools and Colleges

We can accept a small number of applicants for Work Experience.

- Five continuous days is the suggested minimum period.
- Buddying up with a friend is more productive than volunteering solo.
- Applicants must be physically fit to work safely in an outdoor forest environment.

You do not need to be considering a career in outdoor education to find work experience at Bentley Copse worthwhile.



Work and Jobs

The work undertaken by those on work experience will be varied and difficult to predict in advance. Recently such work has included:

- Construction – Fencing and smaller building projects.
- Activity instructing – Assisting with running activities.
- Maintenance – Repairs and upkeep.
- Video Production – Filming and editing tutorial videos.



Applications

Email bookings@bentleycopse.org.uk to apply, providing:

- Your name, DOB, phone and email address
- Requested dates.
- Name of your school or college.
- Any work experience rules/policies the school or college can provide.
- Your career goals (if known)
- Why you have chosen Bentley Copse.

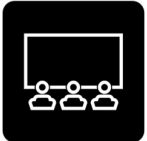
Corporate Days



Team Building and Community Volunteering

Get your team out of the office and make a real impact:

- **Ecology / Forest Management** : Projects that benefit the site.
- **Manual Labour** : From planting trees to moving logs.
- **Maintenance** : Painting, repairing and clearing tasks.



Team Presentations or Meetings

Use our indoor facilities for presentations, workshops or meetings before or after volunteering.



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Team Building and Activities

We can combine the volunteering opportunities with dedicated team building activities:

- **Team Building Challenges** – We have several team challenges that can be undertaken.
- **Adventure Activities** – Crate Stacking, Gladiator Challenge, Climbing, Abseiling or the fear inducing Leap Of Faith



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Activity Centre Service Badges



Scouts and Explorers

The Scout and Explorer activity centre service badges require at least five days of volunteer work.



[Scouts Activity Centre Service Activity Badge | Scouts](#)



[Explorers Activity Centre Service Activity Badge | Scouts](#)

The requirements of these badges have recently been completed by Explorer scouts who undertook college work experience here and followed this up with additional holiday days of volunteering.



Service Days / Weekends

We can usually help you put together a weekend camp with minimal or no cost.

- Free camping : *We will never charge volunteers camping fees.*
- Building Access : *Speak to us about which buildings / kitchens / dormitories you could use.*
- Activities : *We can reward you with a fun activity at the end of the day.*



Your Team

Volunteering days and weekends are a great way to get Scouts and Explorers to feel a real accomplishment for the work they assist with.

You should build your team of both young people and adult volunteers to make the best of the opportunity. Please do consider:

- **Your ratios** – Do you need additional adults to support the young people?
- **Behaviour management** – Easily distracted young people, or those who require additional processing time for instructions may require additional support from you.
- **Bentley Cope Staff** – Our team is there to supervise your team, maintain safety and meet the work aims of each day. This can only be accomplished if they *and you* are not having to micro-manage or control behavioural issues.



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