

Messenger of Peace Program Guidelines



Messengers of Peace

“All Scouts in Australia, Messengers of Peace by 2018!”

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Introduction

The Messengers of Peace (MoP) initiative started the promotion of dialogue, peace and social entrepreneurship in 2011. This program is led by the World Organisation of the Scouting Movement (WOSM) and through this program, Scouts will become Global Active Citizens involved in their local communities.

With the support and enthusiasm of thousands of Scouts, and Scout leaders, around the world, MoP has grown and is reaching and impacting at the local, national and global level. Thus, enabling Scouts to strengthen the Youth Program in countries and simultaneously address local issues in a wider scale.

The MoP initiative has proven to be a realisation of one of Baden-Powell's vision when he created Scouting – to be a "Global Network of Service" as he called it. Today, the Messengers of Peace Initiative has become an inspiration. It presents in a comprehensive and explicit way the educational objectives of this inspirational call for action, and the practical elements for its implementation in each country. The impact or results of this effort is amplified when teamed with members of Scouts, local community, civil society and non-governmental organisations; as well as with local and national governmental institutions.

The Messengers of Peace Programme has aligned efforts with the World Scout Environment Programme (WSEP) and the Scouts of the World Award (SWA). They are now integrated into the Better World Framework, uniting Scouts across the world through community involvement to become active global citizens.

We hope you will enjoy your personal journey as much as we do, and we hope you will find this guideline useful in your personal progression as a Scout, active citizen and Messenger of Peace.

Why are Scouts Messengers of Peace?

We, as Scouts, are creating a better world. We can make a positive change in the world by becoming active citizens in our community. We have been doing it for over 100 years and now we want others, scouts and non scouts to join this effort.

Scouts do good turns and help others because it is part of the values and principles we have adopted. It is also because it is nice to help others and to make a difference, even if it is only a small action. Whenever we are kind to people we send a message of love and peace, making a difference to them and also ourselves. It just feels good.

When Scouts do a good turn, we are sending a message of positive change, making the current situation better, and transforming the way people feel and think. When people feel and think positively, they also act positively. Imagine if 40 million Scouts do the same with at least one other person.

This means that as Scouts, we are Messengers of Peace through our good actions. It is part of our Scout Promise and Law. We can invite other people to do good turns and become Messengers of Peace as well, inspiring people in our global community that together we can all make a global impact.

What do we understand about peace?

Achieving world peace is related to creating a positive change. Most of the time, peace is related to the absence of war or conflict, but peace is also a result of daily goodwill actions. In fact, if we adopt and promote dialogue, understanding and kindness amongst each other as a way of everyday life, the chances to have conflicts and war are a lot smaller.

If we succeed, positive change and peace will become a natural part of our local culture and tradition. "Therefore, promoting the idea of peace is as important in a war environment as it is in our everyday life, to ensure those values get imprinted in our culture."¹

Does this sound similar to Scouting? In fact, it is very similar to what Baden-Powell had in mind. This is why the vision of Scouting globally, is to have 100 million young people to be active citizens creating positive change in their communities and in the world, based on shared values. You can be one of them.

You can start creating a positive change by taking the first step as a role model of good values with your actions. You should then get in touch with other community members to organise a community project, start sharing ideas and invite others to join your efforts.

¹ Declaration of a Culture of Peace. UNESCO 1999.

How to Become a Messenger of Peace?

Share the message

One of the first steps to become a Messenger of Peace is to become aware that any positive change or action starts with YOU. This means that if you want to make a real difference, you need to start with your own actions. You can also start spreading some inspiration via social media and other communication channels.

We invite you to visit Scout.org, create your profile and share a peace message with the global Scouting community. You can make a sign with the message "Peace starts with me" and pledge as a way to express your desire to promote the culture of peace and understanding.

We also invite Australian Scouts to log onto Scout Central (central.scouts.com.au) and login using your membership number to share your "Peace starts with me" pledge.

Messengers of Peace and the Global Network of Service

Once you start sharing, you automatically become part of Scouts Global Network of Service, joining efforts with millions of Scouts doing community service, promoting dialogue and understanding. This global network is made possible thanks to the joint effort of young people and adults, in any community involvement actions.

Plan>Do>Review your project

In Scouts, we Plan>Do>Review all of our adventures so that we can make the most of our journey. When creating a Messenger of Peace Project, it is the same. Remember, it's a cycle, so once you conclude one cycle, you use your new knowledge and experience to help improve on your next project, or the next step of the project. These questions below should be amended for the section you are in and the type of project you are going to run. Remember big or small, all positive action in your community counts.

Plan:

Explore and research about local issues, people in action and good practices

Identify your motivations and talents.

Choose a field of action and start

What does my community need?

What area of action will my project be?

What is the goal of the project?

Who will help me do this?

What skills do I need to learn to do this effectively?

When will I complete my project?

Where will I complete my project?

Does my project have any long term need for support?

How is it going to be inclusive, fun, challenging and adventurous?

Do:

Stick to your plan and remember your goal.

Make sure everyone has an active role to play.

Review:

What did we do that we could do better next time?

How can we increase our involvement in the community in the future?

What made our peace project successful?

How can we share the good work that we have done with our network?

Is there any follow up things we need to do?

Messengers of Peace Badge

The Messengers of Peace Badge is the official recognition for your actions. The Badge is an acknowledgement of the first of many steps towards becoming a global active citizen. Once you are awarded this badge, remember that as a Scout, you are a Messenger of Peace through your positive actions.

Requirements for the Badge in the different sections are presented hereafter.

Messenger of Peace Badge Requirements

Joey Scout

Joey Scouts do good turns and help others because it is part of the Joey Scout Promise and Law. It is nice to help others, even if it is only a small action. Whenever we are kind to people we send a message of love and peace, making a difference to the others and also ourselves.

Requirements

- Learn about the Messengers of Peace initiative in a Scout meeting or online.
- Participate in a good turn for your community

Completed:/...../.....

Signed:

Joey Scout Leader

Cub Scout

Cub Scouts do good turns and help others because it is part of the Cub Scout Promise and Law. It is also because it is nice to help others and to make a difference, even if it is only a small action. Whenever we are kind to people we send a message of love and peace, making a difference to the recipients and also ourselves. It just feels good.

Requirements

- Learn about the Messengers of Peace initiative in a Scout meeting or online.
- Participate in a Messengers of Peace community engagement activity organised in your Six.
- Share your actions online with the help of an adult at scout.org

Completed:/...../.....

Signed:

Cub Scout Leader

Scout

Scouts do good turns and help others because it is part of the Scout Promise and Law. It is also because it is nice to help others and to make a difference, even if it is only a small action. Whenever we are kind to people we send a message of love and peace, making a difference to the recipients and also ourselves. It just feels good.

Requirements

- Learn about the Messengers of Peace initiative in a Scout meeting or online.
- Participate in a community involvement action organised together with your Patrol.
- Share your actions online at scout.org

Completed:/...../.....

Signed:
Patrol Leader

Venturer Scout

Venturers do good turns and help others because it is part of the values and principles we have adopted. It is also because it is nice to help others and to make a difference, even if it is only a small action. Whenever we are kind to people we send a message of love and peace, making a difference to the recipients and also ourselves. It just feels good.

Requirements

- Learn about the Messengers of Peace Initiative in a Scout meeting or online.
- Organise or help organise a community engagement project with your Unit. (Minimum 6 Hours)
- Share your actions online at scout.org
- Support another section is setting up their own Messengers of Peace Community Involvement Project.

Completed:/...../.....

Signed:
Unit Chairperson

Rover Scout

Rovers do good turns and help others because it is part of the values and principles we have adopted. It is also because it is nice to help others and to make a difference, even if it is only a small action. Whenever we are kind to people we send a message of love and peace, making a difference to the recipients and also ourselves. It just feels good.

Requirements

- Learn about the Messengers of Peace Initiative in a Scout meeting or online.
- Organise or help organise a service project with your Crew. (Minimum 10 Hours)
- Share your actions online at scout.org
- Support another section is setting up their own Messengers of Peace Community Involvement Project.

Completed:/...../.....

Signed:
Crew Leader

Leaders

- Help introduce the Messengers of Peace Initiative to youth members.
- Support youth members to *Plan, Do and Review* their Messenger of Peace Community Involvement projects.

Non Scouts – All Ages.

- Learn about the Messengers of Peace initiative through interaction with Scouts.
- Participate in a Messengers of Peace Community Involvement good turn.

Where to from here?

Scouts are encouraged to continually complete projects for their communities and think about ways they can promote dialogue, peace and social entrepreneurship. Scouts should complete as many service hours as they want. Scout Groups should set goals towards hours spent undertaking projects, have a project of the year and think about having a long term community involvement plan to help shape and form the community in which we live.

Remember to record your hours of service that you contribute to the tally at Scout.Org to inspire others with your project. Through your positive actions, you could inspire Scouts across the Globe, and they might start up the same project in their community. When that happens, you know you are contributing to the global network of service, and you, are a Messenger of Peace.

Badge Location on uniform

The MoP badge has been designed to replace your World Scouting Badge. The Messengers of Peace Badge is the official recognition for your actions. The Badge is an acknowledgement of the first of many steps towards becoming a global active citizen. Once you are awarded this badge, remember that as a Scout, you are Messengers of Peace through your positive actions.

The badge is to be placed **where** the current World Scout Badge goes, above the breast pocket on the left side.

This badge can be worn on the uniform of all Scouts and Scout Leaders. Also those who are not Scouts, may receive the badge noting their participation or leading of a MoP activity.

Badge Purchases

Badges can be purchased through the Scout Shop at <https://scoutshop.com.au/>

