

51st Renfrewshire (2nd Renfrew) Scout Group

Uniforms

The Story of what we now call a Woggle

Until 1924 a loose knot was the official method of fastening the neckie. Some people still tie their neckies this way today.

The earliest mention of an alternative method is 1924 when a troop ring is suggested. This had grown out of the leader training courses held at Gilwell Park. A Gilwell Park employee Bill Shankley had heard that America Scouts were trying a new method of joining their scarves using a ring. These were called Boon Doggles, a play on the idea some were made from dog bones! Bill developed the Turks Head knot from thin leather strips and named his invention the woggle to rhyme with doggle. Bill's woggle design became the Gilwell pattern which could be worn by Wood badge holders.

The idea quickly became popular and an article appeared in The Scout in June 1923 called "Wear a scarf woggle" and the Committee of the Council approved the use of a ring to fasten scarves the same year.

In 1928 the 13th edition of Scouting for Boys refers to wearing a ring to fasten your scarf and in the 14th edition published a year later calls the ring a "woggle". The use of inverted commas suggests this term might have been thought of as slang, POR did not use the term until 1945!

No matter how the woggle came about, or when it did, we now have it, and it's an important part of our uniform and identity.

We have a few types of woggle on our **uniform display**.