



R B F & R S

news release

09/04/2008

No: 21/F&R

Fire engine in Vaisakhi celebrations

A colourfully-decorated Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue (RBFRS) fire engine from Maidenhead will join the Nagar Kirtan procession in Slough at 10am on Sunday (13 April) as part of the Vaisakhi celebrations.

The fire engine and a RBFRS community safety vehicle will join the parade accompanied by retained firefighters and Young Firefighters from Maidenhead Fire Station, together with members of the RBFRS youth team.

Vaisakhi is a significant date in the Sikh calendar and commemorates the birth of the Sikh faith and also marks the beginning of the Sikh New Year.

The Nagar Kirtan (meaning 'town and songs of praise') parades form a colourful part of the celebrations. Slough's parade will feature intricately decorated floats and many of the people taking part will be wearing magnificent traditional costume and bearing flags. There will be singing and chanting and it is hoped the parade will attract up to 10,000 onlookers. The procession will last for around four hours, wending its way from the Gurdwara (Sikh Temple) in Sheehey Way, through Slough to the Gurdwara in Woodlands Avenue.

ENDS.

Notes for Editors:

If you would like to take photographs of the fire engine being decorated by the Young Firefighters, you are very welcome - please contact Nicole Targett on 0118 932 2283. They will be hard at work at Maidenhead fire station on Saturday (12 April) from about 10.20am.