

1st Ruckinge & Hamstreet Scout Group



Welcome Pack

Registered Charity: 308134

Scout Association No.: 36442



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Introduction

Welcome to the 1st Ruckinge and Hamstreet Scout Group, in the district of Ashford in the county of Kent.

This welcome pack will provide you with basic information regarding Scouting and the Group.

There are a number of forms at the end of the pack that we would appreciate you completing and returning to us. The purpose for these forms is explained in the pack.

The Scout Group is also part of the Ruckinge and Hamstreet Scout and Guide Group sharing facilities in the village of Ruckinge.

Scouting

Scouting is a worldwide movement, and is the largest co-educational youth movement in the world with over 28 million members in 216 countries.

In the UK, Scouting is organised through the Scout Association, which has a clear purpose to contribute to the development in achieving the full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens, and as members of their local, national and international communities.

UK Scouting offers everyday (and some more unusual!) adventure and activity to almost 400,000 young people, in all walks of life, across the country.

Scouting is open to all young people aged 6 to 25 of every faith and background, as long as they are prepared to make the promise. Variations are available for different faiths.

The Scout program is based around the five key values:

- Integrity – Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.
- Respect – We have self-respect and respect for others.
- Care – We support others, and take care of the world in which we live.
- Belief – We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes.
- Co-operation – We make a positive difference; we co-operate with others and make friends.

To achieve this, Scouting does this by:

- Take part in activities indoors and outdoors.
- Taking part in a variety of new activities and experiences.
- Take responsibility and make choices.
- Working in a team environment.
- Making and living by their promise.

The Group and Sections

The Group consists of Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers. All sections meet at the Scout and Guide headquarters behind the Old Post Office in Ruckinge village (TN26 2NY).



Beaver Scout Colony 6 – 8 years

Meets: Mondays at 5.30pm.

Leader: Lesley Perk.



Cub Scout Pack 8 – 10½ years

Meets: Tuesdays at 6.30pm.

Leader: Susan Hanlon



Scout Troop 10½ - 14 years

Meets: Fridays at 7.00pm

Leader: David (DB) Beeching

The Group feeds into the Explorer Scout Unit. This is one of 5 units in the District. Explorer Scouts are always welcome back to the Group as “Young Leaders” with any section.



Explorers 14 – 18 years

Meets: Thursdays at 7.30pm

Organised by Ashford District Scouts

The Group is run entirely by volunteers, who give up their own time to help run the Scout Group, as either uniformed Leaders or Committee members, without whom the Group could not exist. The Committee is responsible for fundraising and providing the facilities, ie HQ building, minibus etc. This committee is open to all parents and meets on the second Monday of each month in the HQ building at 8.00pm.

Leaders are always wanted in all sections, either as a full uniformed leader or as an occasional helper. Please contact any leader for further information.

The Promise

The Scout Group is an “open Group”; this basically means that as long as your child meets the general requirements for membership of the Scout Association, they are welcome within our Group.

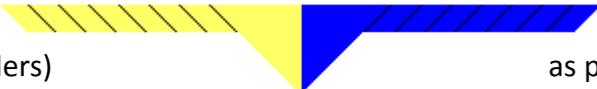
To become a member of the Scout Association and our Group, your child will be asked to make a promise at an investiture ceremony. This would normally be undertaken on a section evening; however it can be carried out at any event. We would always try and make this a special event for your child, however it is your child’s investiture and would only be carried out when they are ready. Investitures may be delayed so that they could be carried out at a special event e.g. at camp. You, of course, would be more than welcome to witness this ceremony.



The promise that they make will be dependent on the section that they are joining. The section leader can answer any questions you may have about the variations to the promise that are available.

Uniform

Scouting is a uniformed organisation and therefore we would normally expect your child to attend in uniform unless otherwise instructed. Uniforms may be purchased in the Ashford Scout Shop (opposite the telephone exchange on the ring road in Ashford), or online from <http://shop.scouts.org.uk>. For events where full uniform is required, Scout “activity” trousers are available, together with a brown leather belt (for Scouts). Dark grey / black “school” trousers / skirt are more than adequate.

The Group neckerchief  is worn by all sections (including leaders) as part of the uniform.

For activity wear, there is a choice of optional polo shirts, available in turquoise for Beaver Scouts and green for Cub Scouts and Scouts.

Badges

During their investiture, your child will be given a set of badges to signify their membership of the Scout movement. The section leader will provide a leaflet with the positioning of badges on the uniform.

Other badges will be awarded for activities and ongoing training / attendance during their scouting life.

Subscriptions

At the current time, subscriptions are £3.00 per week for all sections. A portion of this goes to the Parent / Supporters committee towards running expenses of the HQ building, equipment and the minibus. The balance is retained by the section for badges and activity expenses.

Subscriptions are payable termly and the section leader will inform you of the amount due. Payment may be in cash or by cheque, payable to the relevant section.

Gift Aid

All subscriptions can be gift-aided to the Group. This allows the Group to claim the income tax back from the Government. Currently this is 25p for every £1 given. This is a valuable source of income for the Group, and costs you nothing other than a signature. Once gifted this lasts for all the duration that your child is in the Group. A form is available at the end of this pack.

Trips and Activities

During your child's time with the Scout movement, various trips and activities will be arranged to further their scouting experience. These trips, including camps, are arranged under the rules of the Scout Association and will always be accompanied by qualified leaders, for the activity, and sufficient support staff to ensure the safety of your child.

A general contact form is included, in this pack, for parent / guardian contact and health information for your child. During activities or trips, basic contact information will be provided to a third party "the home contact". This is the person who will contact you in the unlikely event that we need to contact you and should also be your initial contact should you wish to contact us or your child.



Child Protection and Health & Safety

The Scout Association's policies, rules, code of behaviour, advice on Child Protection and safety policy are there to ensure our young people stay safe, whilst the programme of activities that we provide is fun, exciting and challenging. Most importantly we must also make sure that all activities undertaken are safe.

All adults aged eighteen or over, no matter what their role or involvement within Scouting, are responsible for putting this policy into practice at all times.

All Leaders and regular helpers have been subjected to, and passed, an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS, formally known as the CRB) disclosure. In addition all Leaders have passed a basic first aid qualification.

Photographs / Video Footage

The various sections regularly take part in a wide range of activities, organised at a Group, District or County level. Many of these involve challenging activities, which the youngsters involved often like evidence to prove that they have taken part.

In addition, images of the youngsters enjoying themselves can be extremely useful for publicity purposes, internally (e.g. for use in the Group newsletter), externally (sent to local newspapers, 'Scouting Magazine' (which is provided to Leaders in Scouting, etc.), and on display boards etc. in the headquarters. Photographs and video footage of the youngsters in the activities may also be used as a training aid (both adult and youngsters) or as validation of adult training.

At Group events it is relatively easy for the Leaders in charge to take suitable and agreeable photographs of the children involved. At larger events such as District or County events, it is not necessarily possible for the Leader to dictate what photographs might be taken or the specific end use of the photographs. However as the photographs would be taken as part of a Scouting event they would need to comply with The Scout Association's Child Protection Policy, as would photographs or video images taken during Group events.

Please ask if you have any questions concerning this. If we wish to use photos for any other purposes we will seek your permission. There is a form at the rear of this pack, please fill it in as appropriate, sign to say that you accept it and return.

Group Web Site

The Group web site is shared with the Guides and gives details of forthcoming and past events, together with details of the Group.

Section specific information can be accessed by a user name and password. This is generic for each section. Please contact your leader or the Group Scout Leader for access.

The web site address is www.rhsandg.org.uk.

Transport

The Group has its own minibus for the use of all sections in the Scout and Guide Group. This vehicle is fully maintained, taxed and insured as required by law. All drivers hold a minibus drivers permit allowing them to drive vehicles of this type.

The transport of your child, during scouting activities is fully covered through the insurance policies of the Group. If it is necessary to transport your child in a leaders own vehicle, then this is also covered by the leaders own vehicle insurance as normal passengers.

If you have any questions on transport, then please contact the Group Scout Leader direct.

Leaders

All the Group's Leaders have to undertake initial, and then ongoing training throughout their Scouting service. This training ensures that all Leaders have the necessary skills and knowledge to lead and train young people. For specific activities, e.g. canoeing, etc., further training and qualifications are required to meet national standards.

For all joint activities with the Guide movement, all Guide Leaders have to meet the same requirements and have passed a DBS check.

100 Club Draw

The Group run a 100 club to aid with fund raising. This is an effortless method of contributing £12 per year to Group funds

The 100 club consists of people paying £12 per year (April to March), or a pro-rata amount if you join during the year.

Every £12 paid, is allocated a number which is put into our monthly draw.

Monthly prizes are £20 for 1st prize, £10 for 2nd prize. This is for eleven months. The twelve month's draw is drawn at the Christmas Fair and has one prize of £100.

Every subscription to the 100 club, is eligible for Gift Aid enabling the Group to claim the tax paid, equivalent to 25p for every £1 paid (providing you are a UK tax payer).

A form is provided at the end of this pack.

General Information

All personal information is held under the Scout Association data protection policy and is strictly controlled. No information is held that is not required for the operation and safety of all Scout members, either youth or adult.

Should you wish to see the information held for your child, please contact the Group Scout Leader direct (gsl@rhsandg.org.uk).

Group Contacts

Group Scout Leader: Melvyn Beeching

Phone: 01303 271807 or 07771 821291

E-mail: gsl@rhsandg.org.uk

Beaver Scout Leader: Lesley Perk

Phone: 01233 721217

E-mail: bsl@rhsandg.org.uk

Cub Scout Leader: Susan Hanlon

Phone: 01233 730884 or 07810 436191

E-mail: csl@rhsandg.org.uk

Scout Leader: Dave (DB) Beeching

Phone: 01233 721310 or 07763 802910

E-mail: sl@rhsandg.org.uk

Explorers (Smugglers): Timothy Brisley

Phone: 01233 733604 or 07891 879874

E-mail: esl@rhsandg.org.uk

Committee Chairman: Carol Standen

Phone: 01233 733595

E-mail: cc@rhsandg.org.uk

Generic Scouting Information

Scout Association: www.scouts.org.uk

Group Web Site: www.rhsandg.org.uk





Ruckinge & Hamstreet
Scout & Guide Group



Group Headquarters, Ruckinge, Ashford, Kent

Registered Charity 308134

GIFT AID DECLARATION

Please treat as Gift Aid donations all qualifying gifts made

today in the past 4 years in the future (please tick all boxes you wish to apply).

I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax the charity will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand the charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I give on or after 6 April 2008.

Donor's Details

Title First name or initial(s)

Surname

Full Home Address

.....

PostCode

Date

Signature

Please notify the Charity if you:

- *Want to cancel this declaration*
- *Change your name or home address*
- *No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains*

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.

Note: *This declaration will be applied to all gifts relating to members of the Ruckinge & Hamstreet Scout & Guide Group within the parental home.*



Ruckinge & Hamstreet Scout Group Photographic & Video Footage Permission Form

I acknowledge that during the course of Scouting events (weekly meetings, days out, camps, etc.) photographs and / or video footage may be taken, and could be used for any of the purposes outlined below.

I also acknowledge that on larger events photographs and / or video footage may be taken that the Group's Leaders have no control over.

I understand that all photographs and / or video footage taken by or on behalf of Scouting events will comply with The Scout Associations Child Protection Policy. However, the Group has no control over the photographs and / or video footage taken by Third Parties and their proposed end use for the photographs and / or video footage.

Use	I give my permission	I withhold my permission
To be provided to you after events		
Recruitment of Members or Leaders		
As a training aid and validation of Leader training		
Internal publicity (Group Newsletter, promotion of future events to members of the Group etc.)		
External publicity (submission to Local newspapers, 'Scouting Magazine' etc.)		
To be shown at Group events / on the Groups notice boards in the Scout Hut		

Signature: Date:

Name (Printed):

General and Emergency Contact Information Form (page 1)

Member

Name:

Address:
.....
.....

Date of Birth:

Any special needs (physical, medical or educational)
.....
.....

Any allergies (nuts, plasters etc.) or other medical condition that we need to be aware of:
.....
.....

Any medication that may be required during a Scouting activity (asthma inhaler, epi-pen etc)
.....
.....

If my child requires the above, they know how to administrator it: YES / NO

They are likely to be able to self-administer: YES / NO

Nationality:

Ethnicity:

Faith/Religion:

General and Emergency Contact Information Form (page 2)

Parent / Guardian

Parent 1 (Primary)

Parent 2

Name:

Name:

Relationship:

Relationship:

Address:

Address:

.....

.....

.....

.....

Telephone:

Telephone:

Mobile:

Mobile:

E-mail:

E-mail:

I give permission for my e-mail address to be used to send me Group newsletters and activity information

I give permission for my e-mail address to be used to send me Group newsletters and activity information

YES / NO

YES / NO

Emergency Contact (Other than Parent/Guardian)

Name:

Address:

.....

.....

Relationship:

Telephone:

Mobile:

Doctor

Doctors name:

Doctors Address:

.....

.....

Doctors telephone number:

National Health Number:





Ruckinge & Hamstreet Scout & Guide 100 Club

I wish to become a member of the Ruckinge and Hamstreet Scout & Guide 100 club.

I enclose cash/cheque to the value of £12, (or £1 per month pro-rata to March) payable to Ruckinge and Hamstreet Scout & Guide Parent Group).

Name

Address

.....

.....

Post Code

Telephone: (For contact purposes)

Your subscription, to the 100 club, is eligible for Gift Aid.

With Gift Aid you can make your donation worth even more. For every £1 you give, we can claim the tax of 25p from the Government at no extra cost to you.

To qualify for Gift Aid, you must be a UK tax payer and pay an amount at least equivalent to the tax claimed.

If you wish your donation to be Gift Aided, please tick here.

Please send this form and your remittance to:

Mrs N Pickup,
Brambles,
Marsh Road,
Ruckinge,
Ashford,
Kent TN26 2NZ

