



Year 2010 Information Sheet

What is Scouts?

- Scouts are the 3rd Section after beavers and cubs for children aged 10-14 years.
- We accept both male and female scouts within our troop

Our meetings:

- We meet at West Wellow Scout HQ in Canada Road
- We meet on a Tuesday Evening from 7.00 to 9.00 pm.
- On occasions we will meet elsewhere, details of which will appear on the programme

How does Scouts work?

- Scouts are split into Patrols of between 4-7 Scouts
- Each Patrol has a Patrol Leader (PL) and Assistant Patrol Leader (APL)
- Patrols have their own meetings (Troop Forum) in which they discuss issues affecting the troop including their own programme

Leaders: For clarification, this is not a paid role in any way !

- The Scout Leadership Team consists of: Sarah Scrase, Ian Mitchell.
- Frank Arburrow and Rob Komorowski are regular helpers. If we are lucky we may have some Young Leaders who are Explorer Scouts. We currently have Chris and Jake.

What do we do?

- The possibilities are endless! Evenings vary from Badge work to wide games, pioneering to camping Skills, trading posts to snorkling, cooking to cycle rides... and so on! We also do 3(ish) camps a year, as well as other adventurous activities such as caving, climbing, hiking, rafting and canoeing. Summer Camp is usually held over a week during the Summer Holidays, between 4-7 days.
- We will undertake challenging activities e.g. knife work, orienteering etc. These are all activities that have a level of risk attached. All are risk assessed and deemed appropriate within the Scouting Association. There may be times e.g. when they might cut themselves or get lost. The scouts are given training to help them develop their skills to reduce the risk of this happening. Part of the training is to teach them that "if in the event of it happening," they will have a plan B to follow. **If you have any concerns about this, firstly please read about scouting, the aims and objectives (Scoutbase website PTO). If you have any further concerns please do not hesitate to contact us. If you still have concerns about activities, then Scouting may not be the option you choose for your Son or Daughter but do talk to us first.**

Awards:

- For Scouts there are a range of "Challenge" badges: Outdoor, Outdoor Plus, Adventure, Expedition, Fitness, Creative, Global and Community. When four challenges + a personal challenge Scouts can gain the Chief Scouts Gold Award. There are over 70 proficiency badges that can be gained in nearly every subject, and all scouts are encouraged to gain at least 2 per year.

Expectations

- It is helpful to us if you are CRB checked. For example if we are going swimming, we need a crb check before we can put other scouts in your car. Please let us know if you are currently crb checked from cubs or if we need a new application form.

- You will be emailed a programme, usually once per term. We will try to let you know the week before, or by email or phone, any changes to the published programme. We use email in preference to paper to save time and the environment. Please let us know if this causes a problem. If it is raining and we have an outdoor activity planned, please assume that Scouts is on. We will contact you if it is ever cancelled. We expect you to support this and ensure your Scout turns up correctly dressed. Having gone to the effort to run an activity, we do not expect you to keep your Scout at home to keep dry.
- We expect your Son/Daughter to attend regularly unless otherwise arranged. We would appreciate a quick call or text if they are not going to be attending at short notice e.g. if they are unwell. This is particularly important if we are meeting off site e.g. hiking, so that we do not delay a start waiting for members to arrive.
- If as they are getting older, homework is increasing in volume, we appreciate entirely that there may be some nights they miss. However we would distinguish the difference between missing Scouts to complete homework and missing scouts because packing for camp is boring.
- We expect you to collect on time so that we can also leave at 9pm if we have our younger children with us.
- Two dates of the year are paramount for attendance. St Georges (April) and Remembrance (November) are a **must** attend. We will always publish these well in advance for you to put them in the diary.

Joining our Troop:

- We suggest you arrange with the cub leaders a suitable week to visit the troop, to see what we are like.
- If you decide that you like Scouts, then after a trial period, we will invest you - when you have to make the Scout Promise.
- Before you are invested, you will need to get a **Uniform** that consists of: green and gold Neckerchief and Woggle.
- **Uniform** can be purchased from Oasis, Church Street, Romsey (512194) Outdoors at Salisbury.

10 - 14 Scouts
Teal Green Scout Shirt
Blue Scout Combat Trousers
Scout Belt & Buckle

Troop Registration:

- Every year, parents are required to complete an "Annual Registration Form."
- This form gives permission for the Scout to take part in all troop activities detailed on the programme, and it is your responsibility to inform us if you object to your son/daughter taking part in any activity. Some activities need additional permission forms which are distributed with the information.

No form = no activity

Behaviour

- All Scouts are expected to behave appropriately in accordance with our scout behaviour policy and the Scout Law. A copy of the behaviour policy is included. Please read it with your Son or Daughter before they attend to ensure they understand it.

Subs

- Subs are currently set per term. This covers our use of the headquarters, personal accident insurance and our capitation to headquarters. In the event of financial difficulties, please write a letter to the Group Treasurer marked "Private and Confidential" as scouts are inclusive.

Parental Help

- To accept your Son/Daughter into Wellow Scouts we expect your help. Help is required in the form of weekly help **and also** help with special projects. If you cannot help on the Scout night allocated, please swap with another parent and inform us.
- Special projects flex across many areas so we can find an area to fit with your needs e.g. shopping for camp food/updating badge work/website/marketing/xmas card lists/booking venues etc. **We cannot run scouts without your help and need your agreement on this subject to be able to accept your Son/Daughter.**
- Should your Scout wish to leave before they are 14, please have the courtesy to let us know and preferably not on the evening you are due to be parent help.

We hope your Son/Daughter enjoys their time with us. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact one of the leaders. Please look on Scoutbase.co.uk for further scouting information