



# 1<sup>ST</sup> RADNAGE SCOUT GROUP

Dear Parent/Guardian

Welcome to the exciting, adventurous world of Scouts.

If your child is joining us from another Group or is new to Scouting, we welcome you to 1st Radnage Scout Group. This pack is a useful document to provide valuable information about Scouting and each of the Sections which are run at Radnage Scout Group.

Scouting in general aims to appeal to a young person's desires for fun and adventure provided through exciting, challenging and active programmes. It provides opportunities for developing in young people the qualities that make good citizens: honour, self-discipline, dependability, respect for others and self-reliance.

Young people learn by doing, and Scouting offers activities to capture their imagination and enable each individual to find something in which to participate, develop skills and gain confidence in a challenging, fun and supportive environment.

We hope your child will enjoy the new adventure of being a member of Radnage Scout Group.

Please complete the **Information Form** on the Membership section of the website and return it to your child's Section Leader as soon as possible. The Section Leader will be in contact with you regarding availability of places.

***We look forward to hearing from you***

**For more information please contact the 1<sup>st</sup> Radnage Scout website.**

[www.radnagescouts.org.uk](http://www.radnagescouts.org.uk)

## WHAT IS SCOUTING?

Scouting is an International Movement with over 28 million Members worldwide, spread through 216 countries and territories.

In total there are about 500,000 people in Membership throughout the United Kingdom. This includes about 100,000 adults who have taken up Appointments as voluntary Leaders, Administrators and Supporters.

The Scout Association in the UK accepts Members of all major faiths and offers equal opportunities for both boys and girls no matter what their social, religious or ethnic background.

During 1991, girls were admitted to the Beaver Scout, Cub Scout and Scout Sections. This complemented the admission of young women to the Venture Scout Section in 1976.

During the Spring of 2002 The Scout Association launched the largest change to the curriculum for nearly 40 years. A careful strategy of change management was devised to help people move forward, delivering a totally new way of providing Scouting.

## THE PURPOSE OF SCOUTING

Scouting in the UK is organised through The Scout Association 'To help young people achieve their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potential as individuals, as responsible citizens and as Members of their local, national and international communities'.

We do this by helping young people to develop as active members of their community;

- who are self reliant
- who are caring
- who are responsible
- who show commitment.

Parents tell us Scouting gives their children more confidence, responsibility and a broader set of friends.

Scouting can help develop your child's social skills and encourage self-sufficiency, and gives them access to activities and opportunities that may have been otherwise unavailable to them.



It's exciting being involved with us. We believe that through the everyday adventure of Scouting, young people and adult volunteers regularly experience new challenges that enrich their lives.

***We offer hundreds of activities, as diverse as kayaking, abseiling, staged performance, hiking, camping, and life skills. There's something for every young person, whatever their physical ability.***

## ***How our Programme works***

***Every young person in Scouting enjoys a balanced programme of activities, events and experiences, based around subject areas we call Programme Zones.***

***The zones vary slightly depending on which of our sections the young person is in, but they cover a huge range of activities, from outdoor and physical pursuits to community involvement, creative expression and learning about the wider world.***

***Together we help Scouts get the most out of their Scouting experience by including elements from as many zones as possible within the activities on offer. And, the older they get, the more input young people themselves have in their own programme.***

***Hiking in the dark. Exploring the outdoors. Spending the first night away from home.***

***Activities are an integral part of Scouting. But as well as being challenging physically, our activities help young people set and achieve goals and grow in confidence.***

Scouting works well when young people enjoy learning by doing.

They do this by: taking part in a variety of activities and new experiences, participating in teams taking responsibility.

Our method for giving young people the opportunity to learn by doing is called the Programme. The Programme is a seamless progression of training, activities and awards that covers everything that young people do in Scouting from the ages of 6 to 25.

All adults in Scouting have a responsibility to make sure that the Programme is fun and exciting. We must also make sure that it is safe. The Scout Association's policies, rules, code of behaviour, advice on Child Protection and safety are there to help adults make sure that the young people in their care stay safe while they enjoy themselves and learn.

**'Adventure is at the heart of everything we do. It is the single most important thing that sets Scouts apart.'**

# THE SCOUT PROMISE

Scouting has a simple and positive Promise that is required to be made by all Members. Making the Promise is the most important act in Scouting and is common to every Section.

Scouting has a special ceremony for making the Promise called Investiture or being invested. When a young person makes their Promise they receive their Group Scarf and the Membership Award or their Moving-On Award and are welcomed as a new Member into the Scout Family.

The promise together with the Scout Law, gives a distinctive ethos to the practices of the Movement and acts as a bond with Scouts in other countries.

The three key principles are:

**Duty to Self**

**Duty to God**

**Duty to Others**

Everyone in Scouting expresses their Membership and acceptance of the three key Principles by taking the Promise and following the Scout Law. Beaver Scouts and Cub Scouts have their own special Promise and Law, suitable for their age range.

# THE FIVE SECTIONS

Irrespective of a member's age, a young person in the Movement is a 'Scout'.

The Balanced Programme spans the 6-25 age range which is made up of five Sections. Each Section has its own identity, ethos and style. They all have adult support that varies in style across the different age groups.

- Beaver Scout Colony - ages 6-8. (6 month flexibility applies)
- Cub Scout Pack ages 8 - 10 1/2  
(6 month flexibility applies)
- Scout Troop ages from 10 1/2 - 14 years (6 month flexibility applies)

These are all part of 1<sup>ST</sup> Radnage Scout Group.

*What we stand for...*

*'We believe that through adventure we challenge individuals so that they learn and experience new things that enrich their lives.'*



An Explorer Scout Unit is for young people from 14-18 years old. Explorer Scout Units are part of a Scout District.

A Scout Network is for young people aged 18 - 25 years old. Scout Networks are the responsibility of the Scout County (Buckinghamshire).

There are several important things, which make Scouting different from many other youth organisations:

- We are a uniformed Movement
- We use 'Sixes' and 'Patrols' of about 6 young people to who work together, learning from and supporting each other
- We involve young people in decision making as part of their development.

## THE BEAVER COLONY

A Beaver Scout Colony meet together as a Colony and work within small groups called 'Lodges'. A team of adults will run the Beaver Scout Colony.

Beavers take part in a wide range of activities. These include making things, singing, playing games, going on visits, investigating nature, listening to stories etc. They do this through taking part in a programme of activities provided by the lodge section leaders.

Beaver Scouts:

- Learn about themselves – exploring their feelings and developing good habits of health and personal safety.
- Get to know people – finding out about people in their family, the family of Scouting, the local community and the wider world
- Explore - discovering the exciting world of science, nature and technology, exploring the natural and manmade world
- Care - growing and responding to the needs of others, the local community and the wider world.

Beaver Scouts work towards badges, which are awarded by taking part in the regular programme and activities.



### The Beaver Scout Promise

*I promise to do my best  
To be kind and helpful  
And to love God.*

### The Beaver Scout Motto

*Be Prepared*

# THE CUB PACK

Wolf Cubs, as they were originally called in 1916, used Rudyard Kipling's story The Jungle Book as their theme. Cub Scouts meet together as a Pack and work within a variety of small groups called "Sixes".

Radnage Cubs have a team of adults who run the Cub Scout Pack, led by the Group Scout Leader and supported by Warranted Leaders. Some will be uniformed leaders, others may be informal Assistants or Helpers. Explorer Scouts who are Young Leaders might also assist the Leadership team in the Pack.

Cubs take part in a wide range of activities that are designed to be interesting and to challenge them. At the same time they have fun, adventure and make friends along the way. They do this through taking part in a programme of activities provided by the Leadership team such as: camping, playing games, trying new things and exploring the outdoors. Depending on age activities can include:

Climbing &  
Abseiling, Hiking, Camping, Orienteering,  
Pioneering sports, Canoeing, Bushcraft

All activities are supervised by qualified leaders, if such a leader is not available within our Group a qualified leader is brought in from elsewhere.

Some activities may require a Parental Agreement form and additional medical information.

Cub Scouts work towards awards and badges.



## The Cub Scout Promise

*I promise that I will do my best  
to do my duty to God and  
to the Queen,  
to help other people  
and to keep the Cub Scout  
Law.*

## The Cub Scout Law

Every Cub should know their Cub Scout Law, put simply it is something they should try to remember in their everyday lives. The Cub Scout Law is:

*Cub Scouts always do  
their best,  
think of others before  
themselves,  
and do a good turn every  
day.*

## The Cub Scout Motto

*Be Prepared*



# THE SCOUT TROOP

Scouts meet together as a Troop and work within a variety of small groups called 'Patrols'. The Patrol Leaders work with the Leadership Team in setting the programme and in decisions affecting the Troop. The Patrol system is one of the important ways that young people can take responsibility for themselves and others.

A volunteer leadership team made up of uniformed Leaders and other informal Assistants and helpers will guide the Troop.

Scouting has a reputation as an outdoor organisation based on strong traditions of camping and other outdoor pursuits.

Most Troops will offer a number of events away from home during the year, and very often a summer camp. These are important to the life of the Troop, as they are the culmination of much of the training during the year.

Scouts work towards awards and badges.



## The Scout Promise

On My Honour,  
I Promise that I will Do My  
Best

To do my Duty to God and to  
the Queen  
To help other people  
and to keep the Scout Law

## The Scout Law

- *is to be trusted*
- *is loyal*
- *is friendly and considerate*
- *belongs to the Worldwide Family of Scouts*
- *has courage in all difficulties*
- *makes good use of time and is careful of possessions and property*
- *has self-respect and respect for others*

## The Scout Motto

*Be Prepared*



# THE BADGES

Even though the emphasis is on a Balanced Programme of activities, there are still badges and awards for Beavers, Cubs and Scouts to aim for during their time with the Group. Badges and awards are given in recognition of the effort made by each young person at their own level.

## The Membership Award

This award helps the young person understand the commitment they are making when they make the promise and become a Member of the Movement. It covers the history, traditions and practices of Scouting.

## Joining In Awards

The Joining In Awards recognise a commitment to Scouting. They celebrate Scouts participating in a Balanced Programme over a period of time. They are awarded on the anniversary of the young person joining Scouting.

## Challenges

The Challenges compliment the Balanced Programme. These have been developed to extend Scouts' skills and experience in a particular area. The Challenges vary according to the Section and focus on more ambitious tasks. They cover themes such as Friendship, Outdoor, Fitness, Community, Creative, Global, and Promise.

## Activity Badges

Activity Badges are optional, but they provide an opportunity to reward a young person who has taken part in an activity over a period of time. They should raise interest and extend a young person's skills throughout their time in Scouting.

They are usually awarded when a young person has completed a challenging yet achievable set of requirements.

There are several Activity Badges, ranging from Book Reader , Pet Care to Navigator to Water Activities to name but a few.

The wide range of challenging and interesting badges can be found on the UK scout web site

<http://scouts.org.uk/>





## Staged Activity Badges

The staged activity badges have been designed to provide a unified approach throughout the sections.

There are six activity badges staged across the sections.

This means that a young person can gain whichever badge is appropriate to the level they have reached. It is possible, for example, for a Beaver Scout who is an excellent swimmer to gain a higher level badge than a Scout who has just taken up the activity.

A young person should always wear only the highest of each staged badge type that they have gained on the uniform.

The badges cover;

- Emergency Aid
- Hikes Away
- IT
- Musician
- Nights Away
- Swimmer

## Partnership Awards

Partnership Awards are designed to encourage the Sections to work together, and for Scouts to work with other young people in their community.

There are three Partnership Awards:

- The International Friendship Award
- The Environment Award
- The Faith Award

## Chief Scout's Award

This badge is the highest award available in each section, ranked bronze, silver, gold, platinum and diamond.

It is gained by completing all the challenge badges during the time in the relevant section.

The Chief Scout's Awards can be transferred from Beaver to Cub to Scout Uniform.

## Duke of Edinburgh and Queens Scout's Award

Many older Scouts also complete the various parts of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, or go on an expedition to gain their Explorer Belt.

The Queen's Scout Award marks the pinnacle of effort and achievement for Explorer Scouts and Scout Network members. Every year those who've recently achieved the award get the opportunity to attend a royal parade at Windsor Castle.



## The Moving-On Award

The Moving-on Award is intended to help a Scout make a smooth transition through the Group from Beavers to Cubs to Scouts. The requirements to achieve the award are to attend section meetings for four to six weeks and take an active part in the programme and work towards the relevant Membership Award during this time.

The Section Leader presents the Moving-on Award, normally at a going-up ceremony.

The Moving-on Award is worn on the uniform on the left breast, above the Membership Badge and above the Joining In Award. The young person should wear the award throughout their time with the section.

## THE MEETING TIME AND LOCATION

The Scout Meetings are during school term time every week.

**Beavers – Mondays at 5pm to 6.30pm**

**Cubs - Tuesdays at 6pm to 7.30pm**

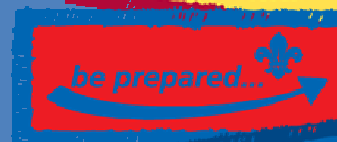
**Scouts – Fridays from 7pm to 9pm**

Radnage Scouts are located in the beautiful Chiltern Hills at Elbow Napp off Spriggs Holly Lane in Radnage, HP14 4DZ,

Grid Reference SU 78158 97693.  
Lat.51.672582, Long.-0.871152.

For a detailed map visit the Radnage Scout Group web site: <http://www.radnagescouts.org.uk/>

*Due to restrictions on Leaders it is important to maintain correct ratios on each of the evening activities. Therefore it is important for guardians dropping off Scouts to enquire if it is alright to leave the young person before leaving the premises. On the rare occasion that there are insufficient Leaders or Helpers this will result in the evening programme being cancelled.*



## SUBSCRIPTIONS

Scout Groups charge subscriptions to cover cost of equipment and the resources to enable us to deliver good quality Scouting. Part of those subscriptions (subs) goes towards the annual membership fee paid to headquarters for the day-to-day running of The Scout Association that includes insurance for all members.

Subscriptions are £35 per term following the school academic year, and may be made by cheque annually for £105, or by monthly standing order at the rate of £8.75 per month

Camps and external activity events are run on a not for profit basis, and costs are worked out to as low as is possible.

**Cheques:** Please make cheques payable to 1st Radnage Scout Group

### **Gift Aid:**

The Group is now able to recover income tax on any donation provided a declaration has been made to cover the tax reclaim.

Donations may now be of any value. The only criteria is that the individual making the donation has to pay income tax or capital gains tax of at least the amount to be recovered by the Group.

If you sign a gift aid declaration the recovered income tax can really help the Groups finances and cut down the pressure on the essential fundraising!

for information on Gift Aid giving, please see our Support Us website page [http://www.radnagescouts.org.uk/support\\_us.php](http://www.radnagescouts.org.uk/support_us.php)

## UNIFORM

Uniform should be worn to weekly meetings, unless specified by the Leader, and considering the activities. This consists of the Activity style trousers and the appropriate sweatshirt or shirt.

They will also wear a scarf (sometimes called a "necker"), the colour of which varies from Scout Group to Scout Group. Radnage scout group colours are orange, white and green.

Uniform is available to buy from the PMG School Wear Shop in High Wycombe. [www.pmgsschoolwear.co.uk/](http://www.pmgsschoolwear.co.uk/)

Scouts also have a woggle, to keep their scarf up. The woggle will normally be of the colour of the six they are in and the coloured woggle will be provided at investiture by the Group Scout Leader.

There are many other items of optional uniform such as a camp sweatshirt that can be worn for outdoor activities to reduce the "wear and tear" on uniforms. (available to order from the Section Leaders)

Periodically your child will be awarded badges which should be attached to their sweatshirt or shirt. A diagram showing the position of these badges is available on the Radnage Group Scout website.

## **HEALTH**

The Scout Association Rules stipulate that no child is allowed to undertake any activity without the Health section of the membership form being completed.

Please complete the on line Membership Form which will be kept on file by the section leader for all future activities. Remember to inform the section leader of any changes to the details.

## **NOTIFICATION OF NEW MEMBER / CHANGE OF DETAILS**

The information which you give on this membership form will be used by the Leader of your child section. The Leader will keep a reference copy and a further copy will go to the Treasurer (for subscription and Gift Aid purposes only). If your details change in the future, please remember to complete a replacement form.

## **DATA PROTECTION ACT**

The Group is not subject to compliance with the Data Protection Act. However, as a matter of courtesy, we do ask if you object to your personal details being kept on computer by the Group for purposes of administration. We would stress that information held on computer is only available to for use within Scouting. Passing data relating to young people is in fact illegal.

## **SAFETY AND CODE OF CONDUCT**

The Scout Association takes pride in its safety record. Guidance is provided to Leaders through their District and County support. Safety issues are covered in our Leader Training. For more adventurous activities such as water sports, caving and mountaineering, we have special authorisation arrangements to ensure Scouts are in safe hands.

These are a few rules, which are to be adhered to by all members in the Group. The reason for these rules is to give the Group discipline, so everyone can enjoy themselves.

The Group takes part in many activities, some of which are adventurous, and without discipline, safety could be compromised which is not an option within The Scout Association activities.

1. Group Scouts must keep the relevant Scout Promise and Law.
2. Section Scout uniform is to be worn on all Group nights, unless otherwise specified. When an inspection takes place, points are awarded for all parts of the uniform.
3. No Bullying, (bullying will not be tolerated)
4. No talking during flag break or flag down. This includes all formal times i.e. Ceremonies, presentations, prayers and notices.
5. If anybody makes the Scout sign and fully raises their arm, or blows the whistle all Scouts must stand still and be quiet. This enables the person to issue instructions etc.
6. Attend Renewal of Promise each year, and Church Parades were possible.
7. Mobile phones are not to be used on Group nights or camps without permission from the GSL or Section Leaders.
8. Everybody deserves the respect that you expect from others.
9. Fun will be had at all times.

## CHILD PROTECTION

The Scout Association's Child Protection policy is known as the 'Young People First' policy. It's often referred to as the 'yellow card' policy because of the pocket sized reminder card all adults are asked to keep and carry with them.

The 'Young People First' policy is held up as an example of best practice and praised by the child protection agencies. The Scout Association also enjoys the confidence and trust of thousands of parents who each week place their children in our care.

It is the policy of The Scout Association to safeguard the welfare of all Members by protecting them from physical, sexual and emotional harm. The Scout Association is committed to:

- taking into account in all its considerations and activities the interests and well-being of young people;
- respecting the rights, wishes and feelings of the young people with whom it is working
- taking all reasonable practicable steps to protect them from physical, sexual and emotional abuse, and
- promoting the welfare of young people and their protection within a relationship of trust.
- 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.

# CRB DISCLOSURE

Scouting continues to hold the safety and wellbeing of your child with utmost importance. It is therefore the policy of The Scout Association that every adult in Scouting should complete a 'CRB disclosure', every adult in Scouting means – any adult who holds a role within our organisation be it, Cub Leader, Group Treasurer, or Group Chair. We strictly follow The Scout Association and its policies to keep young people in our care safe from harm. We have therefore adopted the policy and now include every adult connected to Scouting in our District – that now means parents and guardians. We have taken this path as some parents support Scouting in many ways other than joining in with our regular meetings, such as transporting young people in their cars or joining in group activities such as Family Camps etc.

We would therefore be very appreciative if you could help us by completing the Occasional helper Form, to enable us keep the young people in our care as safe as possible.

## PARENTAL SUPPORT & ADULT HELP

Scouting depends on its adult volunteers and we would welcome your involvement. Did you know that as an assistant helper or leader we can offer you:

Nationally recognised training, typical qualifications can include First Aid, and qualifications in activities, such as climbing, water sports, sailing, archery and even chainsaw use.

Or perhaps just help in supporting Group or Section events, such as camp transport, refreshments, fund raising or perhaps take an active role in the Executive committee and help manage the Scout Group

If anyone is interested in becoming a leader or a helper on a regular or occasional basis please contact the Group Scout Leader.

No previous experience is necessary, as training will be provided.

There is no payment for being a leader (except expenses), but you can expect lots of fun and to make many friends.



# MEMBERSHIP DETAILS

The Scout Association in the United Kingdom is a membership organisation. To enable it to operate - and to communicate with its Members - it is necessary to maintain accurate records. This will include details of name; address; date of birth; contact telephone numbers along with details of your child's progress through scouting (e.g. badges gained).

Information held in our Scout Group may be shared from time to time within Scouting including the National Headquarters of The Scout Association.

Adults and young people have the same rights under the Data Protection Act. The Act covers paper-based (as well as computer-based) information. Certain information is classed by the law as 'Sensitive Personal Data'.

In a Scouting context this may include information about your child's:

- Health (to ensure that we are prepared for medical emergencies it is important that we hold relevant information).
- Disabilities (to ensure a safe integration of your child's participation in activities, details of any disability need to be known).
- Religious or similar beliefs (this will help us ensure that we make appropriate arrangements when necessary).
- Racial or ethnic origin (again this will help us ensure that we are sensitive to cultural needs of our Members).

We may also use images of your child to promote scouting. These images may be used in our recruitment or in other printed publications that we produce, as well as on our website. First names only will be published. Our Scout Group may be visited by the media to take photographs or film of a visiting dignitary or other high profile event. Your child will often appear in these images, which may appear in local or national newspapers or on televised news programmes.

To hold this 'Sensitive Personal Data' we will need your consent. This can be given by completing and signing the 'Parent/Guardian signature on the Membership Form.

All of the information will be used only in connection with your child's membership of the Scout Movement in the United Kingdom. This will include membership management and communications.

None of the information provided will be passed to any third parties outside the Scout Movement.

We would be grateful if you could complete the Membership Form available online: <http://www.radnagescouts.org.uk/membership.php>, to download: <http://www.radnagescouts.org.uk/docs/Membership.pdf>, or available from your Section Leader or Group Scout Leader. Please submit this form to your the Group Scout Leader online, or print and return at the next meeting.