

1st Burnham on Sea Scout Group

Welcome pack



www.burnhamscouts.org.uk

1st Burnham on Sea Scout Group Welcome Pack

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Dear Parent/Guardian

I wish to formally welcome you to our Scout Group, and I hope that your son or daughter achieves the enjoyment and training they require in the next few years.

It is heartening to see that so many young people still like to attend our group, and this is great encouragement to our executive committee members, leaders, assistant leaders and helpers, all of who voluntarily give up many hours per week to ensure your child receives the correct balance between training and enjoyment.

We have spent many years fund raising to achieve the high standard of facilities and equipment that we utilise for the benefit of your child and, unfortunately, we have not finished yet as we are currently committed to repaying a loan to the Scout Association, which we took out in order to ensure the "new" building reached a reasonable standard.

We are also continually improving and upgrading both the building and the equipment to ensure current safety recommendations are met, and to ensure the facilities are safe for your child (and our leaders etc!!).

As a parent/guardian you are automatically a member of our Group Council, which meets once a year at the Annual General Meeting, and at which members of the public are elected to the Group Executive Committee (Leaders are automatically on the Committee!). This meeting normally takes place in early June.

The Group Executive Committee meets each month, normally on the 4th Thursday in the upstairs room. I extend an invitation to you to attend this meeting, if only for curiosity! You will be made to feel welcome and will obtain an insight into the myriad of problems we face, sometimes daily.

I look forward to meeting you, and if you wish to attend, or help the Group in any way, please contact the leader in charge of your child's unit.

Yours sincerely

ALAN MATTHEWS

Group Chairman.

(Please reply to; Alan Matthews, Group Chairman, "Brambles", Marine Drive, Burnham on Sea, Somerset, TA8 1NQ)

1st Burnham on Sea Scout Group
Registered Charity Number: 305617
www.burnhamscouts.org.uk

C/O Dave Burland
20 Ramsay Way
Burnham on Sea
Somerset
gsl@burnhamscouts.org.uk

Dear Parents

I am writing to introduce myself as Group Scout Leader of 1st Burnham on Sea Scout Group. My name is Dave Burland and I have been involved with Scouts in Burnham on Sea since 1971. Prior to that, I was a cub and Scout at 1st Huntspill and Highbridge Scout Group. I started with Burnham on Sea as a helper in 1971 until 1973 when I joined the Royal Navy. Having travelled over most parts of the world, I have witnessed scouting in many countries. I have always kept my contact with Burnham on Sea Group as it was my home Group. After leaving the Royal Navy in 1992, I became an Assistant Scout Leader at Burnham and took over as Scout Leader in 1997, and I am at present doing the job as Group Scout Leader since 2002. I am married with two children. It gives me great pleasure to welcome you and your child to our Scout Group, I hope you will enjoy all we have to offer and will participate in as many things as possible.

As parents, you are automatically a member of the Group Council and are welcome to attend any of our Group Committee Meetings and help with fundraising events, if it was not for your help in these areas, we would not be able to give our best for the Scouting of your child. I hope to meet you all in due course. As leaders, we strive to give your child the best experience in scouting, and safety is our first priority. Should at any time you have any concerns about anything to do with our Scouting activities, this should be addressed to the Group Scout Leader, as the Scout Association has its own complaints procedure.

Yours in Scouting

Dave Burland (G.S.L.)

Why I am a Leader

I'm not a Scouting leader for the easy hours, high pay, parents' gratitude, power or prestige.

I'm a leader because I want the world for your child and mine - a world they can share and help shape; a world of love and laughter, where they can show compassion.

I want them to look at the stars, a sunrise, a sunset, the work and world of man - and feel its beauty inside of themselves.

I want to help them learn to finish anything they start and do it well, and to guide them to know their worth with a deeper understanding of themselves.

I want to help shape adults who have strength of character and are sensitive to the needs of others.

I want them to be the best they can be.

I'm giving of myself and my time. I reap rewards far beyond what I give. I receive for my children, your children, and future children a better world.

How much is a Scout leader paid, I hear you ask; my wage consists of smiles and laughter, observing a child's growing self confidence and the look of personal triumph on the face of a child who has achieved more than they thought they could.

Anyone who can teach me or show me a better way to do this job, anyone who gives of their time to help me become a better leader, and anyone who by action or deed makes the Scouting program come alive will forever have my undying gratitude.

I am a Scouting Leader because I care.

Scouting Today

What is scouting today?

The Scout Association is an international, non-political youth movement that embraces Members from all social backgrounds, faiths and cultures enabling young people to get more out of life. It is committed to a policy of encouraging and supporting young people from ethnic backgrounds.

The Aim of the Scout Movement enables young people to have fun, whilst following a programme that will encourage them to achieve their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potential as individuals and as responsible members of their local, national and international communities.

The promises and Law of the Scout Association provide Members with a code of living. The values these give are present throughout the content and method of delivery of the programme.

So what does this really mean?

Scouting enables young people to:

- Develop skills, such as working with other people
- Develop sense of responsibility for their local and wider communities and environment that they may otherwise not achieve
- Enjoy a complementary informal education system
- Participate in a structures, exciting and challenging leisure time activity
- Make friends and share experiences
- Develop spiritually through programmes followed by each age group
- Understand the spiritual vale of life beyond the material world

Who is scouting for?

Scouting welcomes all young people, both male and female, aged between 5 and 25 years. Adults with in the community can work directly with young people, as Leaders or Helpers, or with other adults and Administrators, committee members or general supporters.

How is Scouting organised?

The scout movement has four sections for young people, which enables them to join us at the age of five as a Beaver Scout, join the Cub Scouts at the age of eight, the Scouts at Ten and a half years old and the Explorer Scouts at the age of fourteen and a half years, until they are 18. The sections follow a training scheme that enables them to work for awards and badges, which help them to develop skills personally and as a team member. The most prestigious achievement award as a Member of the Scout Movement is the Queen's Scout Award, which may be gained by Explorer Scouts. Plus do their Duke of Edinburgh award.

Within a neighbourhood or particular community some, or all, of the four sections collectively form what is known as a Scout Group, each with its own name. The Group is managed by a Group Scout Leader or Scouter in Charge, who co-ordinates with all of the work with young people, adult support, community relations and the development of the Group.

Scout Groups can meet in any suitable building, such as a community centre, school or place of worship.

A Scout Group may have mixed membership (boys and girls) or separate for boys or girls. If you would prefer your children to participate in single sex activities, look for a Scout Group that caters for your needs. Activities, such as camping and games, within a mixed sex Scout Group may be carried out separately.

The Groups within a defined area (a district,) are supported by a team of experienced Leaders and someone who is called the District Commissioner. A key part of their role is maintaining and developing relationships with the local communities and developing new and existing provision. Your children to participate in Activities, such as camping and games, within a mixed sex Scout Group may be carried out separately.

How can my family and I participate in Scouting?

A Scout group relies heavily on voluntary Leaders and adult support, in fact, it cannot exist without them, so any help that you may give would be very welcome.

Parents and adults have the chance to help young people in their personal development and reduce the barriers between generations. Adult leaders receive valuable, structured training that will allow for their own personal development too.

Family members may also join the Scout Fellowship; the movements "supporters clubs", which are open to everyone over the age of eighteen to provide support of Scouting within the local area to enjoy the social benefits of Scouting.

What are the benefits of Scouting?

To young people of your community, having a Scout Group would assist in providing:

- Cultural education
- Pride in cultural identity
- Language re-enforcement
- A sense of belonging
- Building of self-esteem

Involvement in Scouting can also be advantageous to the young people when applying for employment, as employees often look favourably on young people who have scouting backgrounds.

How will Scouting cater for my / our cultural or religious needs?

The fundamentals of scouting are to re-enforce the beliefs of your culture and religion, not to change them. Scouting takes into account the different religious and cultural obligations held by its members and variations to the Scout promise may be made to include these. By following the Scout Promise and Law, through the Progressive Training Scheme, young people may meet the responsibilities that your religion and culture place upon them.

The Scout Uniform can incorporate traditional and cultural dress requirements.

How can I get further Information?

Contact your local Scout Group or District Commissioner (see your telephone directory or local library) or contact the Community Development Department, at Baden – Powell House, which will be pleased to put you in touch with the Scouting locally or provide further information as required.

Yours in Scouting

David Burland (G.S.L.)





1st Burnham on Sea Scout Group

Data Protection Act

Dear Parents

Membership Records

The Scout movement in the United Kingdom is a membership organisation. To enable it to operate – and to communicate with its members it is necessary to maintain records about them.

This will include details of name, address, date of birth, contact telephone numbers and also e-mail address. We will also be keeping details of your son / daughters progress through scouting (badges gained etc). Information held on our Scout Group may be shared from time to time within scouting including the Headquarters of the Association.

New legislation came into force in March 2000, which covers the protection and processing of personal data. Adults and young people have the same rights under the Data Protection Act 1998. The Act covers paper based (as well as computer based) information.

Certain information is classified by the law as “sensitive Personal Data” In a Scouting context this may include information about your son's / daughters: -

- 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 son's / daughter'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.)

To hold this “sensitive Personal Data” we will need your explicit consent. This can be given by completing the enclosed form.

All the information will only be used in connection with your son's / daughter's membership of the Scout Movement in the United Kingdom – this will include membership management and communications.

Any of the information provided will not be passed to any third parties outside the Scout Movement without your consent. You can give your consent by completing the question on the form.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely

Dave Burland (Group Scout Leader) please see overleaf for return slip)

1st Burnham on Sea Scout Group



Use of Images of Children
Dear Parent

There are sometimes occasions when we wish to take photographs of the members of our Scout Group. Similarly there are occasions when the local press may attend our events and they may wish to publish photographs in the newspaper or use recordings on television. In order to comply with Data Protection Act 1998, we need your consent.

Name of Beaver Scout, Cub Scout, Scout or Explorer Scout:

I agree that the Scout Group can take photographs of my child which may be used in promotional literature (Eg Scouting Newsletters, magazines or publicity posters)

I agree that the Scout Group can take photographs of my child for the Group's own records and displays.

I am happy for the press to take and use images of my child and that the Group may give the first name of my child for publishing with the child's photograph in a newspaper or for captioning on television.

Signature of parent/guardian_____

Date: _____ Name (in Block Capitals)_____

1st Burnham on Sea Scout Group – Data Protection Act

I accept that the Scout Group will be keeping information about my son's / daughter's membership of the Scout Movement for Scouting purposes.

I give / Do not give (please delete as appropriate) explicit consent to the holding of the information of my son's / daughter's health; disabilities; religion / race / ethnic origin and e-mail address for Scouting Purposes.

I give / do not give (please delete as appropriate) consent to the disclosure of any of information held to third parties associated with the Scout Movement in order that they may offer products and services which may be of interest

Please return this slip to your son's / daughter's section leader.

Son's / daughter's Name

Parent / Guardian, Print Name.....

Signed.....

DATE..... Thank you for you co-operation.

1st Burnham on Sea Scout Group

Subscriptions

The financial year for our scout group runs from the 1st April to 31st March the following year. The annual subscription for the current financial year is £140 per child. This is reviewed each year by the executive committee prior the Annual General Meeting (usually held in June) and any changes to the annual subscription are discussed at the AGM and come into force on the 1st September following the AGM.

The £140 annual subscription is needed for the following purposes:-

£70 (50%) goes to the running of the scout group (insurance, gas, electric, water rates, ground rent, hut cleaning, general maintenance of the hut, etc.)

£33.00 (nearly 25%) goes to the National & District Headquarters for the insurance in scouting of your son/daughter, running the National Camp Sites, and the administration of the scouting organisation (i.e. the annual membership fee to the Scouting Organisation, often called “capitation”).

£37.00 (just over 25%) goes to the section your son/daughter belongs to, and is used for running the programme of that section, including purchasing the badges your son/daughter achieves. It is also often used to subsidise outings for the section.

Whilst it would be ideal (for the group) if the full £140 was paid to the group at the start of the financial year, we readily appreciate and accept that this is neither sensible nor feasible (although if any parent wishes to do so, we would be more than pleased to accept it).

The preferred method of payment of subs is by 10 equal monthly instalments of £14, payable on the first meeting of each month with the exception of July and August. Not only will this assist the section leaders in the collection of the correct amount of subs, but will release valuable time at the start of meetings for scouting activities.

A cheque (payable to “1st B-o-S Scout Group”) or cash should be handed to the section leader at the start of the first meeting of each month (except for July and August)

In order to avoid any confusion any parents may have, the subscription rate is £140 per child per year, and is due irrespective of how many meetings your child attends. As such, there is no equivalent “weekly rate”, as the number of times the sections meet varies between sections. However, should any parent wish to pay subs other than by monthly instalments, please contact your section leader for a private chat.

Yours in Scouting,

David Burland (G.S.L) & Chris Gammon (Treasurer)



GIFT AID DECLARATION

1st Burnham on Sea Scout Group

Title..... Forename(s)..... Surname.....

Address.....

.....

..... Post Code.....

I want the Scout Group to treat as a Gift Aid donations,
All donations including membership subscription I have made since the 6th of April 2000 As
Gift Aid donations.

Date...../...../.....

Signed.....

Notes

- 1) You must pay an amount of income tax and / or Capital Gains tax at least equal to the tax that the charity reclaims on your donations in the tax year (currently 28p for each £1 you give)
- 2) You can cancel this Declaration at any time by notifying the Scout Group
- 3) If in the future your circumstances change and you no longer pay tax on your income and Capital Gains equal to the tax that the charity reclaims, you can cancel your declaration (See Note 2)
- 4) If you pay tax at the higher rate you can claim further tax relief in your Self Assessment Tax Return.
- 5) If you are unsure whether you donations qualify for Gift Aid tax relief ask the Scout Group, or ask your local Tax Office for Leaflet IR65.
- 6) Please notify the charity of your name or address.



1st Burnham on Sea Scout Group

Confidential

FULL NAME..... DATE OF BIRTH

ADDRESS..... RELIGION.....

..... POST CODE.....

PERSON TO BE NOTIFIED.....

ADDRESS (IF DIFFERENT).....

TEL NO (HOME)..... (BUSINESS).....

E-MAIL

I CERTIFY THAT:

- A) MY SON / DAUGHTER CAN / CANNOT SWIM.
- B) HE / SHE HAS / HAS NOT HAD AN ANTI -TETANUS INJECTION IN THE LAST 10 YEARS
- C) HIS / HER NATIONAL HEALTH NUMBER IS.....
- D) HIS / HER FAMILY DOCTOR IS DR.....
- E) HE / SHE DOES / DOES NOT SUFFER FROM ANY KNOWN ALERGY, SENSITIVITY OR DISABILITY, E.G, ASTHMA, PENICILLIN OR TRAVEL SICKNESS. IF HE / SHE DOES PLEASE GIVE FULL DETAILS.

.....
.....
.....

DECLARATION BY PARENT / GUARDIAN

I CONFIRM THAT THE ABOVE DETAILS ARE CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND THAT I WILL ADVISE YOU OF ANY CHANGES. IN THE EVENT OF ANY ILLNESS OR ACCIDENT REQUIRING HOSPITAL TREATMENT, I HEREBY AUTHORISE THE LEADER - IN - CHARGE TO SIGN ON MY BEHALF ANY WRITTEN FORM OF CONSENT INCLUDING THAT FOR ANAESTHETIC REQUIRED BY THE HOSPITAL WHERE A DOCTOR CONSIDERS

THAT ANY DELAY IN SEEKING MY PERSONAL CONSENT WOULD BE DETRIMENTAL TO THE HEALTH OF MY SON

/ DAUGHTER.

SIGNED.....

DATE.....

PARENT / GUARDIAN

1st Burnham on Sea Scout Group



To the G.S.L

I am writing to inform you that the address of my child.....

has changed. Their Section is

Our new address is

Town:..... County.....

Post Code:..... Tel No.....

(Please tick as appropriate)

I am moving out of the area and require info on the nearest scout group to my new address:

I am not moving out of the area and my son / daughter will be continuing in their section.

Signed..... Date.....