

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Thank you for enquiring about a place for your child at 13th Twickenham (St Mary's) Scout Group. Established by the Rev. Archie Raven in 1908, 13th Twickenham celebrated its Centenary Year in 2008. It is a thriving and over-subscribed group. It is one of only about 5 groups in the district which has its own Head Quarters. This enables us to offer the young people a much wider programme of activities than groups who meet out of church and school halls. Our facilities include an outdoor space, where groups can practise pitching tents, participate in activities such as cooking and games, storage facilities for tents and equipment and the facility for drying off/airing tents after camping weekends away. We also have our own minibus, which enables us to take members to other activities.

WHO ARE WE?

The group is a **voluntary** organisation, which is run by people who freely give up their time to organise weekly activities for their young people. The Leaders undergo training and receive support from other Leaders in the area. In addition to the Leaders, there are Skills Instructors, Helpers and, most importantly, the Executive Committee – formed from the parents of children across all Sections. It is the job of this Committee to administrate the running of the Group premises and equipment (pay the bills, organise cleaning and maintenance, fundraise, arrange insurance etc). The Executive Committee is elected at the Annual General Meeting and the term of office is for one year.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT IF MY CHILD JOINS THE GROUP?

Beavers 6 – 8 years

The focus of this group is “fun and friends”. Your child will gain badges and awards by participating in craft activities, team and individual games in the weekly meetings. Joining with other colonies to participate in district events such as the New Year Party and Fundays.

Your child will also be offered residential experiences during their time at Beavers.

Cubs 8 - 10½ years

Cubs are encouraged to be a little more independent than Beavers and will participate in craft activities, cooking, drama, team and individual games, work towards badges, learn about people in the community, participate in district based activities such as the Swimming Gala, Sports Day and Cub Challenge Days. Your child will also be offered camping and other residential experiences during their time at Cubs.

Scouts 10½ - 14 years

Scouts are encouraged to become more independent. The Scout Leaders offer a varied programme including air rifle shooting, indoor and outdoor cooking, team building activities, swimming, bike rides and bowling. Young people also learn and practise how to put up and take down tents. In addition the troop participates in many district based activities such Day Prowl and the Swimming Gala and weekends away enjoying water-based activities, hiking etc. Your child will also be offered camping and other residential experiences during their time at Scout.

HOW MUCH?

To help cover the cost of running, the upkeep of the premises, weekly meetings, insurances, training and the national Scout Association membership subscription, each member of the Scout Group is charged a £40 subscription per term. (£10 of this goes towards the Capitation fee of £35 which is payable annually to the Scout movement.) This amount is reviewed annually. Charges are made for camps etc, and financial assistance is available if needed.

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT FROM US

We will do all we can to ensure that your child is happy, safe and involved in an age-appropriate activity programme which will fulfil the “Aim of the Scout

Association” – namely to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.

WHAT WE EXPECT FROM YOU

Your child will be expected:

- To turn up to meetings on time and in full uniform.
- To behave in an appropriate way towards adults and fellow members.
- To participate in the activities of each meeting, as well as attending Church Parade and St George's Day Parade in April.

Fundraising is essential to maintain our group, our hut and minibus.

We expect every family to support this:

- By attending the Richmond May Fair and serving on the stall for a couple of hours which is one of our major fundraising events.
- By attending the AGM.
- By serving on the Group Executive Committee, which meets about 6 times a year.
- By paying termly subscriptions promptly.

To be able to provide the best possible quality of scouting we need parental support. We need **practical help** and parents can support by assisting with general maintenance of the hall and the grounds (eg mowing the grass, occasional rubbish clearance, hall decorating etc).

We may require some assistance at meetings particularly if you have an unusual or interesting hobby/job that may be of interest to the children. Occasionally we may just need an extra pair of hands to ensure that your children get the best experience from scouting. We always need support with loading and unloading of equipment before and after camps or residential experiences. As they say many hands make light work.

We welcome you and your child to our group and working together we can enable your child's journey through the Scout movement to be an exciting and enjoyable one.

DBS (Was CRB) Clearance

For the avoidance of doubt we have had to introduce a policy in which we ask all new parents (all adults 18+) to complete a DBS clearance form, regardless of whether you have completed one before under another organization This enables parents to get involved either directly or indirectly with the children and activities.

The form is available from Section leaders.

UNIFORM

Stockists include Stevensons (formerly Len Smiths), The National School Wear Centre, Whitton and most school outfitters.

It is also available from the Richmond Upon Thames Scout Shop. Please contact your leader for details

SECTION INFORMATION

BEAVER SCOUTS – Age 6 – 8 years

Meet: **Monday 6.15 pm to 7.30 pm**

Beaver Scout Leader: Sarah Kershaw
contactus@13thtwickenhamscouts.org

Telephone: 020 8979 9113

CUB SCOUTS – Age 8– 10½ years

Meet: **Tuesday 6.45 pm to 8.15 pm**

Cub Scout Leader: Nick Williams
contactus@13thtwickenhamscouts.org

Telephone: 07973 308735

SCOUTS – Age 10½ – 14 years

Meet: **Friday 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm**

Scout Leader: Sam Turner
contactus @13thtwickenhamscouts.org

Telephone: 07583 252 179

COOK EXPLORER SCOUTS

Age 14 – 18 years

Meet: **Monday 8.00 pm to 10.00 pm**

Explorer Scout Leaders:

Steve Austin Telephone: 07956 838471

steve.austin@richmond-scouts.org.uk

Martin Wood Telephone: 07985412033

mrwoody@btopenworld.com

Web site: www.13thtwickenhamscouts.org

District: www.richmond-scouts.org.uk

County: www.glsWSCouts.org.uk

13th TWICKENHAM (St. MARY'S) SCOUT GROUP

The Scout Hall
Seymour Gardens
Twickenham TW1 3AR



Registered Charity No 303823

Group Scout Leader
Vacant

Group Executive Officers

Chairman Debbie Kingston
0208 241 9461

Secretary Helen Archibald

Treasurer David Kershaw
020 8979 9113