

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 participate in craft activities, team and individual games as well as Beaver sleepovers and a Beaver New Year Party.

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. The Cubs camp for 5 days during the summer holidays.

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 as Day Prowl and the Swimming Gala and weekends away enjoying water-based activities, hiking and Scarefest (Halloween Camp). Scouts camp for 1 week during the summer holidays.

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 6 times a year and St George's Day Parade in April.

We expect every family to support the leaders:

- By attending the Richmond May Fair or St Mary's Church Fete and serving on the stall for a couple of hours.
- By attending the AGM.
- By serving for 1 year on the Group Executive Committee, which meets about 6 times a year.
- By paying termly subscriptions promptly.

We are not able to provide quality scouting without parental backing. We need **practical help** and parents who are prepared to get involved in the following:-

- Mowing the lawn
- Cleaning the minibus
- Assisting at meetings
- Taking rubbish to the tip
- General maintenance on the hall (painting, cleaning)
- Car sharing/transport to activities
- Loading and unloading of equipment before and after camp
- Cleaning up after camps.

Many hands make light work and in real terms, you can expect to spend an evening every couple of months on scouting business. **If you do not feel able to make such a commitment, please consider carefully whether 13th Twickenham St Mary's Scout Group is right for you and your child.**

Quite apart from administration and fund raising support, you may be in a position to help at a Scout meeting by acting as a badge examiner, talking about your unusual hobby/occupation or offer your particular skill or talent for the benefit of the Group. Again, **we are all volunteers and it is your child who will benefit.**

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 CRB 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.

THE SCOUT PROMISE

On my honour, I promise to do my best to do my duty to God and to the Queen, to help other people and to keep the Scout Law.

SCOUTING IS OPEN TO BOYS AND GIRLS OF ALL DENOMINATIONS, FAITHS AND ALL WHO CAN MAKE THE PROMISE.

UNIFORM

Stockists include Len Smiths, John Lewis, The National School Wear Centre, Whitton and most school outfitters. It is also available from the Richmond Upon Thames Scout Shop. Please contact Shirley Sainsbury-Brown. Email: shirleysb@tiscali.co.uk Telephone :

SECTION INFORMATION

BEAVER SCOUTS – Age 6 – 8 years

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

Beaver Scout Leader: Sarah Kershaw

beavers@13thtwickenhamscouts.org

Telephone:

CUB SCOUTS – Age 8– 10½ years

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

Cub Scout Leader: Nick Williams

cubs@13thtwickenhamscouts.org

Telephone:

SCOUTS – Age 10½ – 14 years

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

Scout Leader: Sam Turner

scouts@13thtwickenhamscouts.org

Telephone:

COOK EXPLORER SCOUTS

Age 14 – 18 years

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

Explorer Scout Leaders:

Steve Austin Telephone:

steve.austin@richmond-scouts.org.uk

Martin Wood Telephone:

mrwoody@btpenworld.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
Michel Budd

Group Executive Officers

Chairman *position vacant*

Secretary Michelle Wheeler

Treasurer David Kershaw