



Scout Hut  
Gladstone Playing Fields  
The Highway  
Hawarden  
CH5 3DN

# Members Information Pack

# #SkillsForLife

## WELCOME

On behalf of everybody at the 1<sup>st</sup> Hawarden Scout Group, I would like to welcome you and your child to the Group.

This pack will provide you with information about our Scout Group and the adventures your child can look forward to in their time with us, to ensure your child has the best experiences whilst in Scouting.

Once you have read through this Members Information Pack, understand your responsibilities, and are happy for your child to become a member of Scouting at 1<sup>st</sup> Hawarden Scout Group, please make sure you complete the online member information at My.Scout using the link you have been sent.

I hope you enjoy reading the rest of this introduction to the 1<sup>st</sup> Hawarden Scout Group and I urge you to ask as many questions as you need.

Yours in Scouting

**Paul Wright**

**Group Scout Leader**

### About Scouting

Scouting is the UK's biggest mixed youth organisation, and here at 1<sup>st</sup> Hawarden Scouts we change lives by offering our young members fun and challenging activities, unique experiences, everyday adventure and the chance to help others so that we make a positive impact in our community. We provide young members with skills for life.

Scouting helps children and young adults reach their full potential, and we help every child to develop a host of skills including teamwork, time management, leadership, initiative, planning, communication, self-motivation, cultural awareness and commitment. Scouting really does help young people to get jobs, save lives and even change the world.

If you want to know more about Scouting in the UK, visit <http://scouts.org.uk/what-we-do/>



Visit our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1490466604540495>

Beaver Scout Colony

Age 6 to 8 years

Meets at the Scout Hut on Tuesday 6.30 to 7.30pm

**BEAVERS**

Cub Scout Pack

Age 8 to 10 1/2 years

Meets at the Scout Hut on Wednesday 6.30 to 8.00pm

**cubs**

Scout Troop

Age 10 1/2 to 14 years

Meets at the Scout Hut on Friday 7.00 to 9.00pm

**SCOUTS**

## Group Sections

We have three very active sections at 1<sup>st</sup> Hawarden Scout Group. New members of the Group will join as either a Beaver, a Cub or a Scout, and the Group will also assist in their transition from Scouting to Explorers once they reach 14 years of age, where members then have the option of becoming an Explorer Scout and Young Leader. We host the Gladstone Explorer Unit.

## The Group and Scout Association Aim

The Group provides adventurous activities and personal development opportunities for all its members delivering skills for life. Personal development means promoting the physical, intellectual, social and spiritual well-being of the individual, helping them achieve their full potential. In Scouting, we believe that young people develop most when they are 'learning by doing,' when they are given responsibility, work in teams, take acceptable risks and think for themselves.

## Moving On Through Scouting

Children start life in the Group as a Beaver Scout, aged at least 5 years 9 months. They remain a Beaver Scout until their 8<sup>th</sup> Birthday when they then *Move On* to become a Cub Scout. At the age of 10½ they then *Move On* again to become a Scout until the age of 14, when they again *Move On* to become Explorers with our successful District Unit, then Network from the age of 18.

### Uniform & Investiture

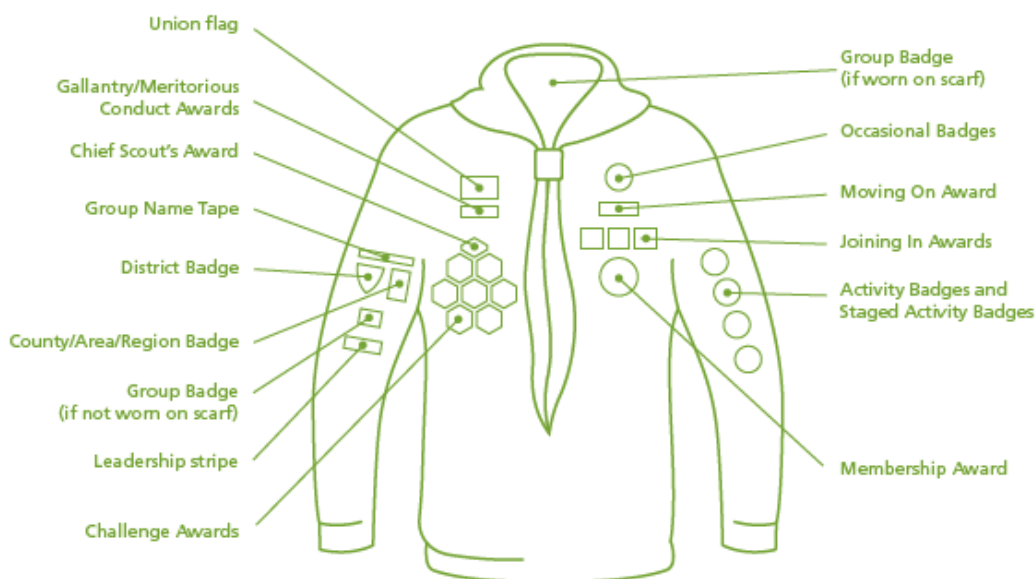
All members when attending the weekly meetings or scouting related activities will need to wear an official **Beaver or Cub Scout Sweatshirt or Scout Shirt**. These can be bought from Forrester Sports, Mold, or online from <https://shop.scouts.org.uk/>.

An official black and yellow neckerchief is presented to all young members when they are invested into scouting by their Section Leader, this is usually several weeks after joining. Official uniform is also worn on special occasions when we then request members to wear smart dark trousers and shoes. Any member wishing to wear

official uniform trousers or shorts may do so, but we don't expect this. What we would ask is that all other items of clothing worn at weekly meetings are sensible, comfortable, and will allow young members to join in a variety of activities.

## Activity Badges and Awards

Throughout their time in Scouting, all young members who are actively involved will be constantly working towards the balanced programme of activities and adventures, as they develop skills for life. Their achievements are recognised through the awarding of **Activity and Challenge Badges**, as well as other forms of recognition. Oh, and don't worry too, we will show everybody how to roll and wear their neckerchief. All badges are to be sewn onto their uniform in the appropriate place and we encourage the children to have a go at doing this themselves, especially once they reach the Scout section. If you have any questions about badges and awards, please speak to our Section Leaders.



## What it Costs

**Scouting is an affordable way of providing a range of exciting and adventurous activities for your child.** In a 2010 survey, 75% of parents said Scouting provided the best value for money compared to other extra-curricular activities like sports and martial arts groups, youth clubs and drama or music classes.

The annual subscription charged cover the cost of scouting, such as supporting our HQ, our weekly activities, equipment, badges and so on. But important to note is how almost a third of our membership fee covers charges made for membership of the Scout Association and the insurance for each member, as well as for support to our County and District. Trips, camps and activities are usually charged for separately when not covered as part of the weekly activities, and whilst these costs vary, please be assured we do everything possible to keep the costs to you as low as possible.

We do not want young people to miss out through financial hardship though. If concerns about finances may prevent your child taking part, please make sure you speak to your child's Leader, as assistance may be available, and any support will be provided in the strictest of confidence.

We use electronic bank transfers for collecting annual subscriptions, normally an update of the amount is circulated in September and we ask for full payment to be made by the end of October. There is a 10% discount on the third child of the same family being in the Group.

## The Adults in Scouting

Each section is run by a uniformed Section Leader with the help of uniformed Assistant Section Leaders. They are all unpaid volunteers and give a considerable amount of time and energy to provide good quality scouting. (They are ordinary people doing extraordinary things!)

Sections are also supported by Young Leaders who are attached to an Explorer Group and may be involved within the Group as part of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme.

### Group Leaders

Group Scout Leader	Paul Wright
Assistant Group Scout Leader	Phil Houghton

### Executive Team

Group Chair	Chris Durham
Group Secretary	Lynn Reynolds
Group Treasurer	Jules Littleton

### Beavers

Beaver Scout Leader	Caroline Davison
Assistant Beaver Scout Leader	Monty Hunt
Beaver Section Assistant	Claire Sayle
Beaver Section Assistant	Henry Davies

### Cubs

Cub Scout Leader	Nicola Gamlen
Assistant Cub Scout Leader	Andy Needham

### Scouts

Scout Leader	Phil Houghton
Assistant Scout Leader	Andy Hicks
Assistant Scout Leader	Dave Gamlen
Scout Section Assistant	Matty Hicks
Scout Section Assistant	Eric Durham
Scout Section Assistant	Steve Blanchard

### Skills Instructors

Sydney Davies

### Group Section Assistants

Lowri Brown  
Deri Peers  
Teddy Williams  
Euan Coney  
Morgan Wright

## Volunteering

We are always looking for new support and help from anyone wanting to join the adventure as part of the leadership team, our Executive team or in any capacity to help. Could you?

## Useful info for parents and legal guardians

- The Group expects all members to do their best at whatever is offered and to be polite, courteous and keep to their scouting promise and law.
- Beaver Scouts and Cub Scouts must be brought to and collected from the inside of our building. Please make sure that they know if someone else is collecting them and inform the Section Leader.

- Group members using bicycles to travel to meetings should wear safety helmets and have bike lights when dark. We can lock bikes safely away at the HQ building.
- Activities away from our own Scout Hut are covered by a Home Contact who is your link to the leader in charge of the trip, or the InTouch system in which case you will be provided with a mobile number to contact the activity leader direct. Both of these methods of contact are for emergency use only.
- We encourage parents to keep in touch. We have a parents Facebook page where we post pictures and updates. We also will send out letters and emails about events so be sure to check each week at the end of the meeting as they often get stuffed in pockets!
- Please keep the Leaders informed in advance whenever possible, of any absences or change in circumstances that you think we need to be aware of. Please do not use Facebook as a means of communicating with your Section Leaders – call or text them.
- We will often ask parents to help out as we foster a ‘Scouting Family’ ethos at the group. Please join in if you can.
- Scouts will not need to bring phones or electronic devices to meetings and we encourage having a break from them as healthy.
- As a parent you automatically become a member of the Group Scout Council, with opportunities to extend your role and enjoy the fun and activities along with your child if you wish to.
- As a parent/guardian you are automatically invited to attend the Group’s Annual General Meeting every year.
- Please assist us with general Group Fundraising activities whenever possible, it is vital to us.
- As a parent/guardian you must complete all relevant membership forms and any additional health or information related information required for their child to attend events and activities. You can do this via My.Scout! (Online Scout Manager) We use this information to stay In Touch with you during events and activities.
- Absences of more than 8 weeks without contact or notification will result in your child’s place being offered to persons on our waiting list.

## Behaviour Policy

Everybody has the opportunity to enjoy a safe and happy time whilst being a member of the Group, so it is important everybody behaves in the right way.

Good conduct is rewarded at every opportunity, and we have some simple guidance. We will always seek to resolve things first and will notify you of any issues.

We have a **zero tolerance to bullying, harassment or discrimination**. Any member with concerns about the conduct of adults or young members should immediately bring the matter to the attention of the Section Leader or the Group Scout Leader.

## Who is the Group Scout Leader?

Every Scout Group has a Group Scout Leader (GSL) or Group Manager.

Like everybody in the Group, the GSL is a volunteer, but has overall responsibility for managing and supporting everything that goes on within the Scout Group, and they are responsible for all of the Leaders, volunteers and have overall responsibility for our Young Members. Their role is to ensure the Group runs effectively and efficiently, and with support from the Group Chairman and Group Executive, they make sure Scouting within

the Group develops in accordance with the rules and policies of the Scout Association. Our Group Scout Leader is:

Paul Wright

[paulg\\_wright@hotmail.com](mailto:paulg_wright@hotmail.com)

07703 743439

## Other Useful Group Contacts:

Beaver Section Email: [beavers@hawardenscouts.org](mailto:beavers@hawardenscouts.org)

Cub Section Email: [cubs@hawardenscouts.org](mailto:cubs@hawardenscouts.org)

Scout Section Email: [scouts@hawardenscouts.org](mailto:scouts@hawardenscouts.org)

## Keeping in touch with you!

Once your child is registered with us, it is important for you to keep us informed of any changes to your contact details.

Our Leaders use a system known as InTouch to manage communications in an emergency during most Scout activities and events, as well as for keeping you informed of any changes to events and activities taking place. We may also use a system known as home contacts, if we are away at camps overnight, this system will be explained in more detail to you when your child has their first overnight experience.

We communicate using the most appropriate methods, which may include any or all of the following:

- Phone call to your landline or mobile
- Text to your mobile phone
- Email from your child's Section Leader, The Group Scout Leader or via Online Scout Manager (OSM)
- Facebook Notification from <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1490466604540495>

Our preferred method of contact for general information is email, so it is important that you keep us informed of any changes to your email address.

The Group recognises not everybody has digital skills, or wishes to sign up to social media, we therefore will try to manage communications to suit the needs of all of our member's parents.

## Where to Get More Information

There is a wealth of information and resources available, here are some you may find useful!

Group Website: <http://flintshirescouts.org.uk/1st-hawarden/>

District Website: <http://flintshirescouts.org.uk/flintshire-district/>

Area Website: <http://clwydscouts.org.uk>

National Website: [www.scouts.org.uk](http://www.scouts.org.uk)

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Do you have to be religious?

The Scout Association in the United Kingdom is an open association. This means we are made up of Members of different faiths, including those with no faith, and identify ourselves with no one faith exclusively. Membership is open to all those individuals who share our fundamental values, and are willing to make a commitment to them, expressed by the Promise and Law.

Different versions of the Promise are available to suit different faiths or those who have no affirmed faith. More information about the Scout Promise is available [here](#).

### What insurance do I/the young people have?

All Members of The Scout Association have personal accident insurance and legal liability cover whilst on Scouting activities. Current details can be obtained from [www.scouts.org.uk/insurance](http://www.scouts.org.uk/insurance). You can also talk to our Group Scout Leader if you have any questions or concerns.

## Now Enjoy...

Scouting has been enjoyed by Millions, for over 100 years... and now you and your child are part of the next 100 years of adventure!



UK Chief Scout  
Bear Grylls

