

<http://www.1stgossomsendscouts.org.uk>

BEAVER'S WELCOME PACK

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A GUIDE FOR NEW
MEMBERS AND THEIR
PARENTS

Welcome to 1st Gossoms End Beaver Colony

We are a highly active part of the West Herts Scouting District.

Our members are aged between 6 and 8, and they take part and enjoy an active, exciting, fun, and adventurous programme of activities.

- We spend most weeks between Easter and late September 'outside'.
 - We meet on Monday nights from 17:00 – 18:00. Leaders normally arrive by 16:50 and everyone else by 16.55 as the meetings start promptly.
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Uniform

The Beaver uniform to be worn for meetings consists of: -

- Turquoise sweatshirt
- Turquoise 'T' Shirt (optional)
- Navy Beaver Scout Activity Trousers or similar blue or black trousers (these activity trousers also form part of the cub uniform).
- Trainers.
- A green and yellow neckerchief with woggle - to be supplied when invested.

(Available from The Complete Outdoors Bourne End or John Lewis) The same to be worn with black shoes for formal events such as Church parades - notice will be given ahead of these dates. Beavers are asked to own a complete uniform. Second hand uniforms are occasionally available. Please ask for help if required.

Behaviour & Discipline

One of the ingredients of a good Beaver Colony is underlying discipline. All Beavers are expected to behave appropriately and inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated.

Generally, minor incidents will be dealt with a telling off at the time by the leader in charge. More serious examples, such as bullying, will result in the Beaver's parents being contacted, and the Beaver possibly being suspended. These measures seem obvious, but we feel it important that all members are aware of what is expected of them.

Commitment and Obligations

Members of 1st Gossoms End Beaver Colony are expected to take an active role in the activities of the colony. We would hope for the following to be the minimum commitment from a Beaver.

- Attend all Beaver meetings unless ill or away.
 - Take part in District Fun Days.
 - Take part in St George's Day Parade in April.
 - Take part in County Fun Days.
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Money Matters

Making Payments

We would be grateful if any payments, whether they are by cash or cheque, are placed in a sealed envelope with the Beaver's name and the reason for the payment on the front, please pass these to the section leaders or to the group treasurer.

Subs

Subs are collected once a year on the registration evening held in January. The amount is currently set at £120 per year. This money covers: -

- Annual fees to District, County and National bodies for insurance and leader training. This is called a capitation fee, and currently stands at £37 per year.
- Money is also required to cover the main bills of the hut such as rates, electricity, water and insurance. There is also an on-going amount of general repair and maintenance. However, for major repairs the group still has to look to fund-raising and donations.
- Badges.
- Neckerchiefs
- Equipment needed for Colony meetings.

Gift Aid - Please complete the Gift Aid form.

This allows us to get the income tax you paid back on the subs. This gives us approximately £22 extra per person, for just a signature on your part.

Scouting is for all children, regardless of their background. Financial help is available to allow Scouts to attend outings who otherwise would be unable to take part. Please contact a leader in the strictest of confidence if we can offer help in any way.

Leader Contacts

Beaver Scout Leader
Judy Grundy
E-Mail: Beavers@1stgossomsendscouts.org.uk

Assistant Beaver Scout Leader
Shirley White

If you have any problems or queries, please don't hesitate to contact any of the leaders. We are there to help you and your child.

If you are interested in helping out with the Colony, or the Group as a whole, please contact us. There are no payments for being a leader or helper, but what you get out of it is much better than that - seeing the children having fun and enjoying themselves and learning valuable life skills. (New enthusiastic members are welcome!)

The Group Executive Committee supports the Scout Group. The role of the committee is to organise fundraising events to support the Group, to purchase new equipment and to maintain the Scout Hut. If you can spare a little time - a couple of hours one evening a month for a meeting, or a few extra hours to help at events - please make yourselves known to one of the leaders.

More information can be found about 1st Gossoms End Scout Group on our website.
<http://www.1stgossomsendscouts.org.uk>

The Beaver Scout Promise and Motto

The Beaver Scout Promise

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

The Beaver Scout Motto

Fun and Friends

What is Scouting?

Sir Robert Baden-Powell started scouting over 90 years ago. He was a soldier, and got the idea while he was serving in the African town of Mafeking. He brought this idea home to England after the Boer war, and tried it out with several groups of young boys from all over the country, and from different walks of life. This ended up with him organising a camp on the now famous Brownsea Island.

The old fashioned approach of 'DYB DYB DYB' and wide brimmed hats went out of the window at the review of Scouting in 1967, so we won't make your child wear silly hats unless they want to!

Scouting still remains one of the biggest movements in the world. It differs from other youth organisations in that it requires all Scouts to make a promise "The Scout Promise" and to follow a few simple rules "The Scout Law".

Cubs and then Scouts are the next steps on from Beavers in your personal learning curve. Here, they will learn even more skills than before, as well as expanding on the ones that they already have.

The activities that your child participates in will test them to the limits both mentally and physically. As your child gets older, these will get easier and your child will want to learn new skills, and try even more testing activities. The leaders will try to encourage your child to do this as much as possible, but in the end, it is down to them to show us what they can do.

There are adult leaders on hand to help your child as much as they want us to and when they need it.

"It is a movement, because it moves forward. As soon as it stops moving, it becomes an Organisation, and is no longer Scouting. -- Sir Robert Baden-Powell.

What do we do?

The Training Programme - This is mentioned in the Beaver Scout Programme leaflet.

How do I find out about these activities/events?

The mailing service tends to be via your child. We plan to write our own monthly newsletter, which we prefer to email to parents and scouts as it is more likely to be delivered and helps keep the costs down. (Please tell us your preference on delivery method). This contains general information about the Scout Group and its activities and future events and dates. However, if at any time you are not sure about the arrangements for a Colony activity, do have a chat with the Leaders after a Colony meeting or contact them at home by phone or email.

Do You Want to Help?

Your child may come home from a Colony meeting and say, "I need to know how to build an open fire for camp!"

Your child expects you to be interested and will get much more out of Scouting if you are prepared to offer your support. There are lots of ways in which you can help, for example:-

- Helping when it is your turn for Rosta duty.
 - Helping transport Beavers to events and outings or move kit to camp
 - Supporting the Scout Group's social events, Annual General Meeting, and Open Evenings
 - Joining the Scout Group Executive Committee to help them raise funds and manage the Scout Group.
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The Group Executive Committee

Each year, the Scout Group elects an Executive Committee consisting of a number of parents and various Leaders in the Group to carry out the day-to-day tasks of running the Scout Group. They are responsible for purchasing equipment and maintaining Group property. The function of the Group Executive Committee is also to support and help the Group Scout Leader carry out his or her role in maintaining an effective and successful Scout Group.

What do you gain from helping?

You will have the opportunity to meet a variety of new people and make a real contribution to help your local community. Please do not be shy to offer your help and if you feel you have any skills to offer to the Beaver Colony please contact your Beaver Leader. By playing your part and supporting your child you will share the enjoyment, friendship and fun of the Family of Scouting.

Health/Contact Information

Below, you will find a form; a similar form is also issued before each and every camp. It is important that you complete this form fully and honestly - no matter how small or trivial the problem. It is important that we are able to contact the parents should the need arise. Please could you fill out the form and return it to one of the leaders as soon as possible.

Beavers's Personal Details	
First Name(s)	
Surname	
Date of Birth	
Home Address	
Telephone Number	
Parent 1 Name and Mobile Number	
Parent 2 Name and Mobile Number	
Parent 1 Work Number	
Parent 2 Work Number	
Email address for Parent(s)	
Email address for Scout	

Alternative Contact Details - In case we are unable to contact you, please give us details of another person who may be contacted.

Alternative Contact Details	
Name	
Relationship to Scout	
Address	
Home Phone Number	
Work Phone Number	
Mobile Phone Number	

Medical Information - Please include as much detail in this section as possible including any medication they are on, or should not be given, any past illness which a hospital would need to know about before treatment, and all allergies. Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

NHS Number	
Date of Last Tetanus Injection	
Are they up to Date With All Childhood Immunisations?	YES/NO (Please Circle)
If NO, Please Give Details	
Illness/Medical Conditions e.g. Asthma, Hay Fever, Travel Sickness etc.	
Any Allergies	
Medication	
Special Dietary Needs	
Doctors Details	
Doctors Name	
Practice Name	
Address	
Telephone Number	

Parent/Guardian's Permission

In the event that my son requires medical treatment, I give my permission for the qualified medical staff to act in their best interest, and for any Leader to sign such documents as when may be necessary on my behalf.

I will also notify a leader **immediately** if any of the information on this form should change.

Signature	
Print Name	
Relationship to Beaver	
Date	

Please return these forms to a Leader as soon as possible.
