



## Welcome to the adventure...

Welcome to 1<sup>st</sup> Farnsfield Scout Group. There are many questions you will want answering about what your young person will be doing over the next few years with us, and this Parent Information Pack is designed to help you understand what he or she is undertaking and how you should support him or her.

Your young person has joined the biggest international youth organisation in the world, with over 25 million members. They will be welcomed into the family of Scouting in over 217 countries!

The Scout Association is not just about a weekly activity, but a structured progressive learning scheme that meets the aim of our movement.

*"The Aim of the Scout Association is 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."*

This statement helps us guide and challenge the young people ready for whatever role they choose in the community.

In order to save on paper and printing, section leaders prefer to communicate electronically. This might be via Facebook, email or text message. Please support them in this as it enables the Scout Group to keep our costs low and ultimately our membership fees. For Facebook, we have a strict policy for the management of the pages to ensure our parents or young people's details are not shared with anyone outside of the section to which they belong.

I, along with the rest of the leaders and helpers, hope that your young person's time with us will be a wonderful experience which will be fondly thought of in years to come, but mostly that they have LOTS OF FUN!

Yours in Scouting,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C. Blockley". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

Chris Blockley  
Group Scout Leader  
1<sup>st</sup> Farnsfield Scout Group

### 1<sup>st</sup> Farnsfield Scout Group

**Morgan House** 22 Powell Court, Farnsfield, Newark, Nottinghamshire, NG22 8DZ

**T:** +44 (0)77 7932 4341 **E:** [join@1stfarnsfield.org.uk](mailto:join@1stfarnsfield.org.uk) **W:** [www.1stfarnsfield.org.uk](http://www.1stfarnsfield.org.uk)

**Group Scout Leader:** Chris Blockley **Group Chairperson:** Thomas Pitt **Founder:** Robert Baden-Powell OM **Chief Scout:** Lt Cdr(Hon) Bear Grylls RN  
Charity Registration Number 1026759 (England and Wales)

## About our Group...

Our Scout Headquarters is located at Farnsfield Village Centre, New Hill, Farnsfield, Newark, Nottinghamshire, NG22 8JN. The telephone number for the centre is 01623 882884

We are located within walking distance of St. Michael's Parish Church.

- We were formed in 1943, thirty six years after the foundation of the Scout Movement by Lord Robert Baden-Powell in 1907.
- We are proud to be able to offer all sections of the scout association from Beavers through to Scouts. Explorers are the oldest section and offered across the District.
- Our Group is very active, often holding meetings and events away from the village centre, we like to make the most of the outdoors whenever we can.
- Beavers, Cubs and Scouts regularly take part in District events such as camps, activity days and competitions. Beavers enjoy sleepovers under cover of a building, and Cubs, Scouts and Explorers have regular weekend and annual activity camps under canvas, sometimes cooking on open fires. A sleepover/activity day can cost in the region of £15 and a weekend camp £35 to £70.
- Beavers, Cubs and Scouts have lots of opportunities to gain badges and we hold an annual badge and parents evening (called the Annual Review) to catch up on presentations in addition to those presented at normal meeting nights.
- We also arrange social events for all the family, ferret racing evenings and barbecues etc.
- Our membership fees consist of a fee payable on 1<sup>st</sup> January, 1<sup>st</sup> May and 1<sup>st</sup> September. You should check with the leader of the section what the current rate is or visit <http://1stfarnsfield.org.uk/subs/> to find out or pay. The group is solely reliable on this so please pay promptly.
- Your young person will be provided with a group neckerchief, woggle and investiture badges when they make their promise, we provide this uniform and if they need to be replaced it is a cost of £5. The leaders are always happy to discuss individual needs, so please let us know if you have any difficulties with fees and payment terms.
- Uniforms should be worn at all events and activities unless stated otherwise. This helps with a feeling of belonging to the group, respect and discipline. It also helps the adult leaders identify them easily.
- Uniforms can be obtained from a number of places across Nottinghamshire and online.
  1. Online – <http://scouts.org.uk/shop>
  2. In person – there is a Scout Shop on Grove Street in Mansfield, opposite Water Meadows Swimming Complex. Opening times are Tuesdays during term time – 7.00pm-8.30pm
  3. In person – John Lewis in Nottingham sell a limited selection of uniform
  4. The Group – we may have a selection of second hand uniform items but this is purely on a first come first served basis

## What makes a Scout Group...

Our Scout Group is made up of different Sections. These are divided into age ranges. Your young person will automatically be offered a place in the next Section up when he or she reaches the correct age.

### **BEAVERS** (aged 5¾ - 8 years)

The Beaver Section's motto is "Be Prepared" and we have adopted the original Motto of "Fun and Friends" as our Colony Motto. It certainly is the best description of our Beaver Colonies. They have fun, make friends, learn to share, care, explore and get to know other people and cultures. There are lots of different badges for Beavers to gain, both at their meetings and at home and school.

### **cubs** (aged 8-10½ years)

Cubs have a badge system too but more challenging than Beavers. There are Challenge Badges and weekend camps, and over 40 other activity badges to gain. This Section learns to help others, they play games, go on adventurous activities and camps and take part in competitions and visits.

### **SCOUTS** (aged 10½ - 14 years)

Scouts again have a very exciting badge structure to challenge them. It puts the Aim of the Association firmly in its place! Scouts take more control of what activities they choose, making decisions about what camps and activities they wish to do. They take part in International Camps, weekend survival activities, night hikes and adventures, target sports (rifle shooting, archery [subject to parental consent and are organised by fully trained leaders]) water activities – bell boating, canoeing, and climbing.

### **EXPLORERS** (aged 14 - 18 years)

Scouts may join this team at the age of 13½. It offers more adventurous activities using the Duke of Edinburgh Award as its level for activities and training. Explorer scouts may also opt to become a young leader in one of the other sections, for which they received a basic level of leader training and support.

Explorer scouts take more responsibility for what they wish to do and may apply for a Nights Away "passport" to undertake camps alone.

### **network** (aged 18 - 25 years)

The Scout Network gives young adults the opportunity of meeting socially and getting involved in Scouting events for all Sections.

Each Section feeds on to the next with each Section being more challenging than the last, BUT always fun, with lots of support from the Leaders and Helpers, so the young person achieves what they set out to achieve. This again goes back to our Aim. Your young person will learn lots of skills in every Section, which they will remember into adulthood.

Our joining process is completed online. The next six pages are to be filled in (if not access to a computer) and returned to the Section Leader: It contains key policies which every member of the group must adhere to.

- The first is a Membership Form which has all the young person's details on it;
- The second is for you to nominate three emergency contact details.
- The third is what you can do to support your young person, and us;
- The fourth requires a signature at the bottom to consent to the group keeping your young person's details on a data-base to comply with data protection regulations, this will only be used for the purpose of Scouting and will not be passed to any third party for promotional purposes;
- The fifth is a consent form to allow leaders to take photographs of your young person during scouting activities, which we may use to promote Scouting, in scrapbooks, on our Group website, social media or slide shows or on our closed Facebook pages.
- The sixth is a "Gift Aid" form which enables us to claim money back from the Government on your subscription payments at no extra expense to you.

All forms to be completed and returned within two weeks of receiving this letter.

If you wish to get involved in the Scout Group in any way you will be asked to complete a Disclosure and Barring System form (DBS) which checks out your suitability to work with children. This is no reflection on you personally, but, as I am sure you will understand and be comforted by the fact that we have a responsibility for the safety and wellbeing of your young person and those of other people.

**Thank you!**

## Membership Form...

The following information WILL be held on a database and will only be available to those persons involved in the Scout Movement.

FIRST NAME	
SURNAME	
ADDRESS	
POST CODE	
HOME TELEPHONE NUMBER	
MOBILE NUMBER(S)	
EMAIL ADDRESS (for letters/messages)	
DATE OF BIRTH	
MEDICAL DETAILS	
ALLERGIES	
DIETARY REQUIREMENTS	
SWIMMER (Can swim 50 metres?)	
MOTHER'S (Guardian) NAME	
FATHER'S (Guardian) NAME	
DOCTOR/SURGERY	

### **Parental Consent**

I consent to my young person becoming a member of the Scout Association and will be responsible for the payment of all fees as explained in the covering letter.

Signed.....(parent/guardian)

Date.....

## Emergency Contact Details...

The following information WILL be held on a database and will only be available to those persons involved in the Scout Movement.

It is important that you list people who are known to your young person and that we are able to contact should an incident occur for example if your young person becomes ill or requires medical treatment, these people should be able to collect your young person should the need arise. We will contact them in order, so please list yourself first if you wish to be the first point of call.

Name of Member: \_\_\_\_\_

### Contact 1

NAME	
ADDRESS & POST CODE	
HOME TELEPHONE NUMBER	
MOBILE NUMBER(S)	
RELATIONSHIP TO YOUNG PERSON	

### Contact 2

NAME	
ADDRESS & POST CODE	
HOME TELEPHONE NUMBER	
MOBILE NUMBER(S)	
RELATIONSHIP TO YOUNG PERSON	

### Emergency Contact

NAME	
ADDRESS & POST CODE	
HOME TELEPHONE NUMBER	
MOBILE NUMBER(S)	
RELATIONSHIP TO YOUNG PERSON	

## Parental Support Form...

Without your help and support, however small, we will struggle to provide good quality Scouting. Please do not forget that all the Leaders, Helpers, Assistants, are UNPAID volunteers, so please do your bit for the children. Everyone has something to offer, whether it is through their work (maybe you are a dentist and could visit and talk to us, or you work in a baked bean factory, we may be able to visit you!?) Below are some of the things you may like to do for us, so please fill in and return with the other membership forms.

ACTIVITY	CONTACT 1	CONTACT 2
Become a Leader or Helper		
Help with transport to and from events.		
Help with Letters		
Cooking		
Assist with Craft Activities		
Maintenance on Building (DIY)		
Qualified? Electrician/Gas Fitter/Plumber		
Carpentry		
Help out on Trips		
Help out at Camp		
Run a Game or Activity		
Assist with Fundraising		
Help organise an event (Party/Fete, etc)		
Help take care of equipment.		
Be a Badge Tester		
Attend Planning Meetings		
Provide Raffle Prizes		
Any other Skill/Hobby/Interesting Job		

Name of Member.....Signed (Parent/Guardian) .....

Thank you for your time. Whatever you choose to do it is well worth it and the young people will benefit.



Dear Parent or Guardian,

## Membership Records...

The Scout Association in the United Kingdom is a membership organisation. To enable it to operate and 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. We will also be keeping details of your young person's progress throughout Scouting, e.g., badges gained. Information held in our Scout Group may be shared from time to time within Scouting, including the National Headquarters of the Scout Association, and other Scout Groups.

Legislation came into force in March 2000 that covers the protection and processing of personal data. Adults and young people have the same rights under the Data Protection Act 1988. The Act covers paper-based, as well as computer-based information. Certain information is classed by the law as "Sensitive Personal Data". In a Scouting context this may include information about your young person's:

- Health – to ensure that we are prepared for medical emergencies, it is important that we hold the relevant information;
- Disabilities – to ensure a safe integration of your son/daughter's participation in activities, details of any disabilities need to be recorded.
- Religious or Similar Beliefs – this will help ensure that we make appropriate arrangements when necessary.
- Racial or Ethnic Origin – this will help us to ensure that we are sensitive to the cultural needs of our members.

To hold this "Sensitive Personal Data" we will need your consent by returning this letter (or a copy) with the consent form below completed. All of the information will be used only in connection with your young person's membership of the Scout Movement in the United Kingdom. This will include management and communications. None of the information provided will be passed on to any third party outside of the Scout Movement without your consent.

If you have any questions on any of the issues, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C. Blockley".

Chris Blockley  
Group Scout Leader  
1<sup>st</sup> Farnsfield Scout Group

I accept that the Scout Group will be keeping information about my young person's membership of the Scout Movement and I understand it will only be used for scouting purposes:

Signed.....Print..... Date.....

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Group Scout Leader: Chris Blockley Group Chairperson: Thomas Pitt Founder: Robert Baden-Powell OM Chief Scout: Lt Cdr(Hon) Bear Grylls RN  
Charity Registration Number 1026759 (England and Wales)





Dear Parent or Guardian

### Photographic Consent...

From time to time Leaders will take photographs of activities which may involve your young person, i.e., camps, hikes, etc. These pictures may be used to promote Scouting in scrapbooks, on our Group website, slide shows, or other group media outlets.

If you have a specific problem with this, please speak to myself or one of the Leaders.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C. Blockley".

Chris Blockley  
Group Scout Leader  
1<sup>st</sup> Farnsfield Scout Group

I give my consent to leaders of the Scout Group taking photographs of my young person for presentation or publicity purposes and I understand it will only be used for Scouting purposes:

Signed.....Print..... Date.....

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## Gift Aid Scheme...

1st Farnsfield Scout Group is a recognised Charity as part of the Scout Association with the Charity Commission

With effect from 1 April 2000, legislation concerning the reclamation of tax through Gift Aid has changed and it is now possible for Charity Organisations to make claims under the Scheme on gifts less than £250. The subscriptions you pay to cover your son/daughter's membership fees fall in to the category of Gift Aid and it is our intention, with your permission, to reclaim the tax which you have already paid.

Would you please be good enough to complete the form below and return it as soon as possible in order that we comply with the Gift Aid Scheme regulations; this declaration will only be used for any gifts received from you whilst your son/daughter is a member of the Group, and will have no additional expense to yourself.

It is important for us that you complete and return the form, which will enable us to proceed with future claims. Should you require any further information, please feel free to contact me (details above).

Name of Member: \_\_\_\_\_

## GIFT AID DECLARATION

Title.....Forenames.....Surname.....

Address.....

..... Post code.....

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

Signature .....

### Notes:

You must be paying an amount of Income Tax or Capital Gains Tax at least equal to the Tax we reclaim on the payments (currently 25p for every £1 you give);

You can cancel this declaration at any time by notifying the Scout Group;

Please notify the Scout Group if you change your name/address.

**Thank You!**

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