



Group Information Pack

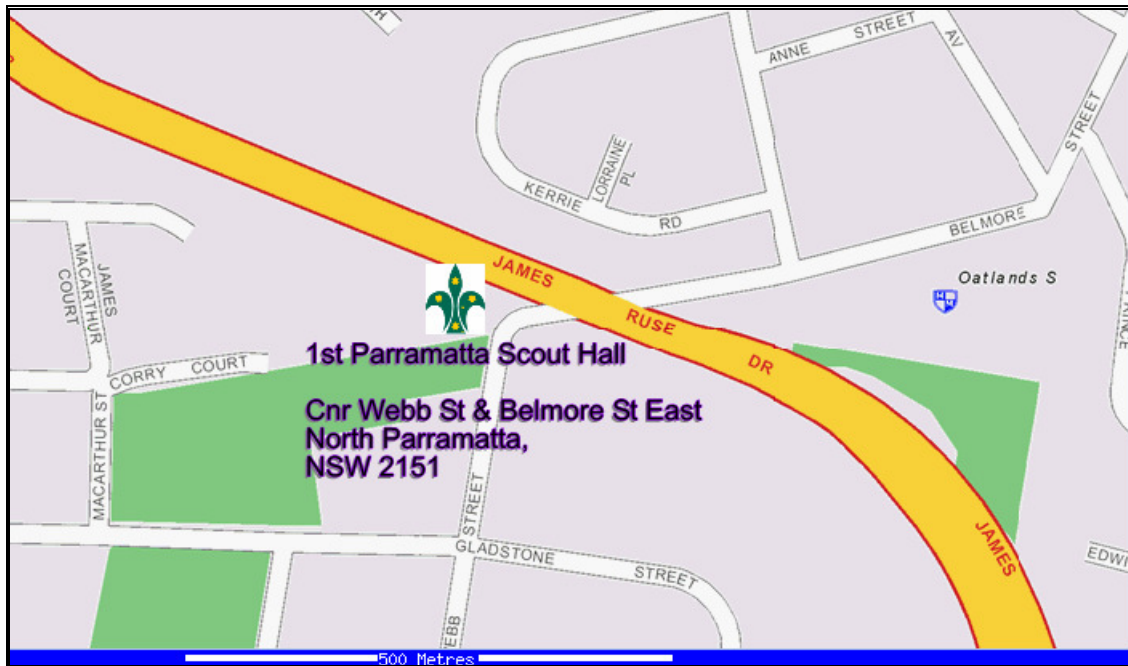


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Location

Cnr Webb St & Belmore St East, North Parramatta, NSW 2151.



Sections currently operating:

Cubs

Meeting time: Wednesday's 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Section Leader(s): Annette, Maurice, & Craig.

Scouts

Meeting time: Thursday 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Section Leader(s): David, Craig, Andrew

Group

Group Leader: Liz Sobolweski (h) 02-9630-7592.

Group Website: <http://au.geocities.com/parramattascoutgroup>

Email: parramattascoutgroup@yahoo.com.au

The Group

The Group was formed in 1908 with our 100 year celebration in 2008. Throughout this time the Group has resided in a number of locations, mostly near Argyle St, Parramatta with the present building in 1988. The hall comprises of a kitchen, toilets, garage meeting rooms, and section room with a main floor area for games and activities. The hall is hired out to supplement the running costs of the Group, though additional fundraising is required.



Committee

We operate a committee that look after ensuring the Group members have a place to do their activities and to have well trained Leaders. The committee meets the last Wednesday of the even numbered months at 7:30 p.m.

Sections

All sections are for any youth, girls, and boys with no discrimination. Each section is aged based and is designed to grow, develops and challenge the child as they progress through. All provide some badge system that provides a means of encouraging the child to achieve.

Each section has trained Leaders who have been through a nationally recognised training system, and each year is required to update their knowledge.

All Scouting members are required to wear a uniform that current is made up of a shirt, Group scarf, and belt. Each youth member's shirt identifies the section that they belong to via a coloured insert across their sleeves and shoulders:

- Tan = Joeys
- Yellow = Cubs
- Green = Scouts
- Maroon = Venturers
- Red = Rovers

Ages

Each section has an age range outline as below:

- Joeys (ages 6 to 7.5)
- Cub Scouts (ages 7.5 to 10.5)
- Scouts (ages 10.5 - 14.5)
- Venturers (ages 14.5 - 18)
- Roves (ages 18 - 26)

Transition

As the youth transition up to the next section, they are guided through a linking scheme where they have to complete a number of activities before completing the process. This is usually done in the new section under the guidance of the section Leader. It also provides the youth time to get to know the members of the new section and to understand how they operate.

Adult Leaders

If you are interested in becoming an adult Leader there are a number of different options available that you may not be aware of:

- **Section Leader**, these are adults who are in-charge of the section and have completed section training.
- **Assistant Leader**, these adults that support the section Leader and are involved in programme planning, organising games and assisting with badge work.
- **Associate Leader**, these are adults that are able to give themselves on a part-time basis. This could be one meeting in each month, or for outside activities.

Leader costs

All costs for training, uniform, section and annual registration costs are usually met by funds raised by the Group committee. There is also a rebate of 50% at the successful completion of the basic training if you would like to assist the Group by paying the training fees yourself. There is a 75% rebate on successful completion of the advanced training.

Leader Training

Leaders are expected to complete a series of training modules before they can be 'left' to run a section. This involves a number of weekends, which will be discussed at the time of the initial interview.

This information can be found at <http://www.nsw.scouts.com.au/Training/default.aspx>.

Nationally Accredited Training

Scouts Australia training is now recognised nationally where it is possible to gain the following:

- Certificate III in Business (Frontline Management)
- Certificate IV in Business (Frontline Management).
- Diploma of Business (Frontline Management).
- Certificate III in Leadership Support.
- Certificate IV in Leadership.
- Diploma of Leadership.

Fee Structure

There are like most organisations require some fees, in the case of 1st Parramatta Scout Group for 2007-08 it is:

Joining cost:

\$20.00 – joining fee (once only)

\$80.00 – annual registration fee (a national fee, pro rata on joining date)

\$100.00 – x4 Group fee (\$25.00 per term)

Total **\$200.00** plus the Group term fee if applicable.

Ongoing annual costs:

\$80.00 – annual registration fee (a national fee, will vary each year)

\$25.00 x 4 – group fee (\$25) per term

Total **\$180.00**

There may also be additional costs for activities like:

- Camps – typically around \$30.00
- Day trips – typically around \$10.00
- Overnight events – typically around \$20.00
- Craft activities – variable costs

Fundraising

It is expected that each member with the help of their parent/caregivers participate in raising additional funds for either the Group or for their Section, or even for a specific activity. All efforts are noted as there are opportunities for the Group to subsidise activity fees with the Group funds based on the current monies available, and the effort put into the member towards that activity.

Annual the Group looks at some of these activities:

- Raffles
- Cake sales
- Sock sales
- Chocolate sales
- Scout Job week

Jamboree funds

It is expected that any member looking at attending a Jamboree and would like the Group to support them with funds, must participate in fundraising. The Group aims for raising funds to pay for a minimum of 50% of the total Jamboree fee plus the travel fee.

Joeys (ages 6 to 7.5)



Joey Scouts are boys and girls between the ages of six and eight. This Section provides an introduction to Scouting through a wide range of enjoyable activities. The activities are aimed at helping the Joey Scouts learn about themselves, nature, helping others and finding fun in accordance with the Joey Scout theme " Helping Other People".

The Joey Scouts form what is called a Mob that is made up of no more than 20 children. The Mob is led by at least two adult leaders, at least one of which must be female if girls are in or joining the Mob. The Mob can then be broken into small groups using an ad-hoc approach, as there are no permanent structures as in other Sections. Joey Scout helpers are also encouraged and must be at least 15 years. The minimum age for a Joey Scout Leader is 20 and an assistant Leader is 18 years.

Leaders are not referred to as Mr or Mrs, but names from the friends of the forest in the Australian bush or Aboriginal names, for example Brolga, Bilby, and Wombat.

The Joey Scout Promise

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

THE JOEY SCOUT LAW

A Joey Scout cares
A Joey Scout shares

Joey Scout Uniform

The uniform for Joey Scouts, whether boys or girls; is the same. A Joey Scout wears a blue shirt with a tan sleeve inset with approved scarf (Group /Branch) and National Joey Scout Woggle. The National Joey Scout Woggle is a tan coloured cloth woggle with the World Scout Badge and the words "Joey Scout" in white embroidered upon it.

What Joey Scouts Do

Joey Scouts do a wide variety of things in their Section. Some of these include cutting, drawing, colouring, painting, pasting, making musical instruments and singing, flying kites and listening to stories like the one on the right.

Program Style

At this age children need experiences, which help them, learn to work and play in groups, mix with adults outside home and school environments, develop their physical, intellectual, social, and spiritual abilities through active experiences.

The above Joey Scout Promise, Law and Theme " Helping Other People" sets the direction upon which activities are based, such as telling stories which give concrete expressions of sharing, helping and caring, using action songs, exemplifying the values in games, activities, crafts etc.

Section Meetings

This Section can meet for up to 90 minutes weekly and the general guidelines for programs include nature activities, displays, finding out about themselves. Day / half day outings are encouraged.

Ceremonies

There is a simple standard for the opening, closing, welcoming, and going up ceremony. The opening and closing ceremonies can vary, but there are core elements that must be included: The Leader breaks the flag for the opening ceremony, the Joey Scout may salute when the flag is broken, the Joey Scout theme "help other people" will be spoken and the Leader lowers the flag for the closing ceremony and a short prayer of thanks is used. For the going up ceremony see the Cub Scout Section.

Cub Scouts (ages 7.5 to 10.5)



Cub Scouts are boys and girls between the ages of eight and eleven. The objective of the Cub Scout program is to provide a group environment which is intellectually stimulating, physically vital, and directed towards satisfying the child's basic need to face and overcome challenges. The activities are based on the natural sense of fun and enthusiasm of the age group and thus the training is achieved largely through games, interaction in small groups and activities.

Cub Scouts comprise a Pack which is limited to 24 Cub Scouts of four Sixes except in special circumstances. Cub Scout Sixes are led by a Sixer. A Sixer is generally one of the older Cub Scouts and is appointed by the Cub Scout Leader in consultation with other Leaders because of known leadership qualities. The Sixer is liked and respected by others in the Six. A Sixer is identified by a stripe with "Sixer" on the left pocket of their uniform. A Sixer is helped by a Second (a helper) who is identified by a stripe with "Second".

A Second is also one of the older Cub Scouts and is appointed by the Leaders in consultation with the Sixer concerned. Some leadership qualities have been shown by the Second to be appointed, and he/she stands in for the Sixer and benefits from working with the Sixer.

Cub Scout adult Leaders are known by names such as Baloo and Bagheera, which are derived from the Jungle Book by Rudyard Kipling. Since children of Cub Scout age have a lively imagination believing in things from Superman to Red Indians, the program of the Cub Scouts Section has its background in Kipling's Jungle Book. Unlike many things that children believe in the "Jungle Book" provides excitement and action combined with a strict moral code of the Jungle Law. There is development from one skill to another (training expressed in all stories of Mowgli); there is physical fitness, love of nature, self-reliance, obedience, loyalty, and courtesy. Therefore all parts of Scouting philosophy can find illustration in the "Jungle Book".

The Cub Scout Promise

There are two versions of the Cub Scout Promise. Individuals (with the assistance of parents) may choose to use either of the following Promises

On my honour
I promise that I will do my best
To do my duty to my God, and
To the Queen of Australia
To help other people, and
To live by the Cub Scout Law

On my honour
I promise that I will do my best

To do my duty to my God, and
To Australia
To help other people, and
To live by the Cub Scout Law

Types of Activities

Cub Scout activities should be short and wrapped up in the spirit of make-believe. Games of every sort should be played to ensure balanced training. Leaders use general Pack games, inter-Six games, sense-training games, relays, and games that help in the practice of Boomerang tests. Stories, in particular Kipling's Jungle Book as mentioned above and other similar stories that involve adventure, romance, humour, history, religious stories etc., are used and help Cub Scouts to more easily understand the meaning of their Promise and Law through analogy, stories and plays. Play-acting such as charades also allows the children to use their imagination freely. Handcrafts are another important activity of Cub Scouts and aim to help children use their fingers and their head to satisfy their creative instinct and to encourage hobbies in their spare time at home.

Program Style

The major feature of the Cub Scout program is catering for the tastes and enthusiasm of the small child presenting a program that is based on their natural developments tied together with a code of morals.

Pack Meeting

This is held once a week in the Group Hall or Church or other hall by arrangement and starts with the Grand Howl and flag ceremony and may be followed by a short talk, a jungle play, a yarn, games, and prayers. The Grand Howl is a universal yell used by Cub Scouts all over the world. It is a greeting to their Leader and a challenge for each Cub Scout to do their best to keep the Cub Scout Promise. It is also the highest form of appreciation a Pack can pay to any visitor or friend.

Ceremonies

Aside from the Grand Howl as mentioned before, other ceremonies include a flag parade, which is conducted at the opening and closing of a Pack meeting. There is also an investiture for new Cub Scouts that involves them reciting the Cub Scout Law and then making the Scout sign and repeating the Cub Scout Promise after the Pack Leader. Other ceremonies include Badge presentations and a "Going Up Ceremony" from the Cub Scout Pack to the Scout Troop.

Scouts (ages 10.5 - 14.5)



Scouts is for young people aged between 10½ and 15 years. At this point in their lives Scouts show great enthusiasm for activities that give them a sense of achievement and follow their special interests with intensity. Trained Leaders use these characteristics to help make Scouting an experience in which young people gain character- developing qualities while having fun. During their years in Scouts they aim to earn a series of Badges, which give them knowledge of basic Scouting skills and mark achievements in areas such as citizenship, campcraft, air and water activities and improving the environment.

The Scout Promise

There are two versions of the Scout Promise. Individuals taking the Promise may choose from either of the following:

On my honour
I promise that I will do my best
To do my duty to my God and
To the Queen of Australia,
To help other people, and
To live by the Scout Law

On my honour
I promise that I will do my best
To do my duty to my God, and
To Australia
To help other people, and
To the live by the Scout Law

The Scout Law

A Scout is trustworthy
A Scout is loyal
A Scout is helpful
A Scout is friendly
A Scout is cheerful
A Scout is considerate
A Scout is thrifty
A Scout is courageous
A Scout is respectful
A Scout cares for the environment

Patrol System

This is the basis of the Scout Section and the principal means by which young people are trained to become responsible citizens. Baden-Powell, the Founder of Scouting, recognised that young people delight at forming themselves into small gangs or cliques each under its own leader whether for work, fun, or mischief. He made use of this natural organisation and called it the Patrol System.

Boys and Girls are formed into stable Patrols of four to eight members. A Patrol Leader is appointed as head of the Patrol and is responsible for the training and development of the Patrol, setting and achievement of goals, fostering the group life of the Patrol, and the well-being and advancement of the Patrol to name but a few.

The Patrol Leader also chooses an Assistant Patrol Leader subject to the approval of the Troop Council and Scout Leader. The Assistant Patrol Leader takes the place of the Patrol Leader when they are absent and otherwise assists in running the Patrol.

The value in the Patrol is that it provides:

- The basic unit for activities and training
- Opportunities for leadership experience for the Patrol Leader
- Opportunities for the Patrol members to gain leadership training through observation of the Patrol Leader and by accepting responsibilities within the Patrol
- The opportunity to belong to and work in an autonomous group within the overall structure of the Troop
- A secure environment in which members can test their physical, social, and mental abilities
- Opportunities for practising and expressing concern for others
- The opportunity to manage and administer Patrol property, finance, and other resources

Troops

A Troop is a group of Scouts who meet together on a regular basis. A Troop is composed of approximately four Patrols and should not contain more than 36 Scouts.

Troop Council

The Troop Council is composed of the Patrol Leaders of the Troop who meet regularly in the presence of the Scout Leader. The Troop Council is responsible for the broad program planning, routine Troop management and for the policies and operations of the Troop, which are within the capacity of the experience of Scouts. It is also responsible for the expenditure of Troop funds. Training of Patrol Leaders is also partly carried out through the Troop Council.

Meetings

As well as regular Troop meetings, Patrol meetings entirely on their own are encouraged and may take place at private homes and as expeditions. Troop Council meetings also occur monthly.

Ceremonies

When the complete Troop meets it is generally opened by the Duty Patrol Leader who calls the Troop to fall in (usually the horseshoe, hollow square). After the Scouts are in position the

Scout Leader takes over and there is a Flag Parade or Flag Break. This is followed by a roll call, inspection (care and cleanliness) and then notices for the night are given (Award of Badges). At the end of the meeting there is a Flag down or Flag Parade, Prayers and then the Troop is dismissed. If someone is becoming a Scout for the first time an investiture will take place.