



Group Information Pack

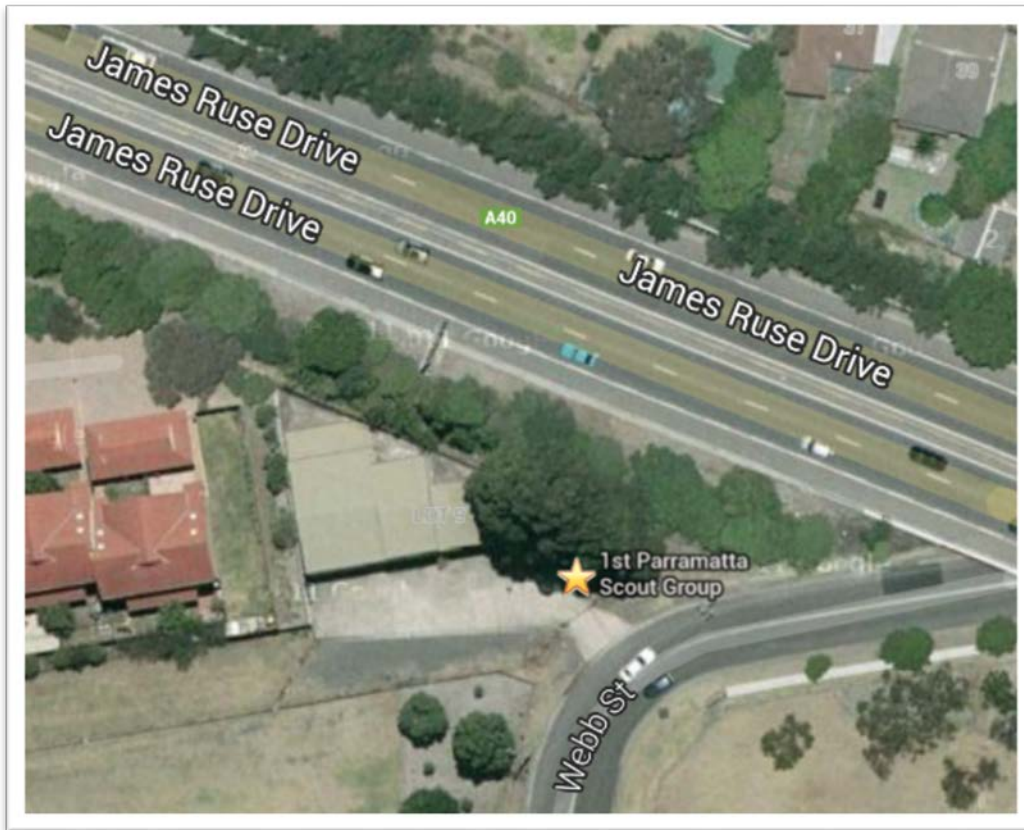


Table of Contents

Location	3
The Group	4
Group Support Committee	4
Parents Involvement.....	5
Prohibited Employment Declaration Form	5
Sections.....	6
Ages.....	6
Transition.....	6
Adult Leaders	7
Leader costs	7
Fee Structure.....	8
Billing.....	8
Hardship.....	9
Fundraising.....	10
Joeys (ages 6 to 7.5)	12
The Joey Scout Promise.....	12
The Joey Scout Law.....	12
Joey Scout Uniform	12
What Joey Scouts Do.....	12
Program Style	12
Section Meetings	13
Ceremonies	13
Cub Scouts (ages 7.5 to 10.5).....	14
The Cub Scout Promise	14
Types of Activities.....	15
Program Style	15
Pack Meeting	15
Ceremonies	15
Scouts (ages 10.5 - 14.5)	16
The Scout Promise.....	16
The Scout Law	16
The Patrol System.....	16
Troops	17
Troop Council.....	17
Meetings	17
Ceremonies	17

Location

Corner of Webb St & Belmore St East, North Parramatta, NSW 2151.



Sections currently operating:

Joeys

Meeting time: Thursday's 6:00 to 6:55 p.m.

Section Leader(s): Donna

Cubs

Meeting time: Wednesday's 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Section Leader(s): Annette & Kevin & Adrienne

Scouts

Meeting time: Thursday 7:15 to 9:15 p.m.

Section Leader(s): David & Craig

Group

Group Leader: David Myers

Group Website: <http://1stparramattascoutgroup.onefireplace.org/>

Email: parramattascoutgroup@gmail.com

The Group

The Group was formed in 1908, throughout this time the Group has resided in a number of locations with the previous Scout hall in Argyle St Parramatta, with the present building being opened in 1988. The hall comprises of a kitchen, toilets, garage meeting rooms, and section rooms 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.



Group Support Committee

We operate a committee that ensures the Group has a place to do their activities, to have well trained Leaders, and raise money when necessary. The committee meets regularly on a Wednesday at the Scout hall.

The *backbone* of the committee are parents. Each parent has a responsibility towards the Group and in fact being on the committee helps in the following ways:

- Shares the load of the volunteer Leaders
- Ensures the Group is financially stable
- Ensures that parents are happy with the Leaders and activities
- Ensures the building and equipment is properly maintained
- Assists with the recruitment of youth members, Leaders, committee.

Information about the various roles within the Group committee is available at <http://www.scouts.com.au/library/>.

Committee roles available	
President	Fundraising Co-ordinator
Vice President	Job Week Co-ordinator
Secretary	Development Officer
Treasurer	Public Relations Officer
Trustee #1	Hall Booking Officer
Trustee #2	Webmaster

Parents Involvement

Parents have a role within the Group and are expected to actually give some of their time, just like the Leaders are doing.

- **Become a trained Leader.**
- Be a parent helper, volunteering for duties such as Scout hall set up or clean up.
- Raise funds for the Scout Group, through fundraising events and activities or grant seeking.
- Become an active member of the Group Committee, which assists the Group Leader and Group Council and promotes the aims and principles of Scouting in conjunction with the Group.
- Serve as an office bearer on the Group Committee (Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and Trustee).
- Serve on a sub-committee to undertake duties defined by the Group Leader or Group Committee.
- **Become a trained Leader.** No this is not a mistake, for without Leaders we cannot run a quality programme. Your skills and enthusiasm is always valued.

Prohibited Employment Declaration Form

As required by legislation aimed at protecting children from unsuitable attention by adults, all Leaders must sign a declaration that they are not prohibited from working with children. The NSW Police then conduct a formal check. The Scout Association endeavours to provide your child a safe and happy time in Scouting, and has procedures such as the PED and others to protect your child.

Sections

All sections are for any youth, girls, and boys with no discrimination. Each section is aged based and is designed to grow, develop 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, max 8)
- Cub Scouts (ages 7.5 to 10.5, max 11)
- Scouts (ages 10.5 - 14.5, max 15)
- Venturers (ages 14.5 - 18)
- Roves (ages 18 - 25)

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.

Leader costs

All costs for training, uniform, section and annual registration costs are usually met by funds raised by the Group committee. We are also implement an ***incentive scheme*** where further discounts for the fees of Leaders children.

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 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 2014-15 it is:

Term fees are based on:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NSW Scouts annual registration fee^{1&2} (billed quarterly @ \$36.00) Group fee (billed quarterly \$30.00), discount applies for further siblings, and children of Leaders 	
Joining cost (once only)	\$30.00
First child	\$66.00 ³
Second, etc... child	\$61.00 ³
Joeys only	\$56.00 ³
Annualised Cost	\$265.00 Cubs & Scouts (Initial child) \$224.00 Joeys (Initial child)

There may also be additional costs for activities like:

- Camps – typically around \$40.00
- Day trips – typically around \$15.00
- Overnight events – typically around \$20.00
- Craft activities – variable costs

Discount on fees

1st Parramatta Scout Group is reliant on adults taking on roles with the sections as Leaders. We have developed an *incentive scheme* where we will discount the Group fee for the children of Leaders; 100% of Group fees for a Leader's first and second child, and 50% of Group fees for a Leader's other children.

Example of savings

1st child, Scout, usually pays \$30.00 in Group fees per term (\$120.00 per year)

2nd child, Cub, usually pays \$25.00 in Group fees per term (\$100.00 per year)

3rd child, Joey, usually pays \$20.00 in Group fees per term (\$80.00 per year)

That's a saving of \$260 per year!

¹ Fee can vary each financial year as advised by Scouts Australia NSW Branch

² <http://www.nsw.scouts.com.au/leaders/membership-information>

³ Discount on Group fee for the children of Leaders is available.

The Group already pays for Leader training, quarterly Leader fees to NSW Scouts (currently \$144.00), and for Leaders to attend most events, even Jamboree which costs in excess of \$1000.

When you will receive payment

On completion of training, you will be reimbursed for the Group fees for the terms during which you did your training. Leader training must be completed within three school terms. Group fees for Children of existing Leaders will be paid commencing term 2, 2014.

The continuation of this offer is at the discretion of the Group Support Committee and will be dependent on the Group's financial position.

What's involved in becoming a Leader?

- Leader Training involves two e-learning modules to be completed at home, then one weekend of training.
- Attendance at weekly meetings
- Weekend activities if you're available

Why YOU should come forward

- It will enable all our sections to continue running.
- It will enable the children to do a broader range of activities, discover new places, develop new skills, make new friends. They will benefit from their Scouting experience throughout their lives.
- It will give you these experiences too – why should adults miss out?
- Scouting is one of the few activities in which your whole family can participate, for you and your child to grow together.
- The Scout Association is fortunate to own some very beautiful campsites which you can experience at minimal cost – very cheap holidays!
- Groups with current parents on their team of Leaders do tend to be stronger Groups.
- It is often said that "*everyone should fit some sort of volunteering into their lives*", so here is your chance.
- Scout Leader training is a recognised business management qualification.
- Too busy? Talk to our current Leaders – they may even be busier than you! They manage to fit Scouting into their busy lives and wouldn't give it up for anything!
- Your Scout Group is as good as the parents make it. Have you done all you can to make it better?

If you are interested in training to become a Leader, please speak to one of our Leaders or contact us by phone or email.

Billing

Paying on time assists the Group as we only a volunteer organization. We encourage the payment is made on time. However, if a bill remains unpaid then we will deregister the member until payment is made. Considerations will be made for hardship.

The Group respects that financial hardship or other factor may mean that fees cannot be paid on time, or in full. We treat all requests on a confidential case by case basis. Contacting one of the committee or the GL/Leader-in-Charge is the first step.

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 is an *incentive scheme* to subsidise activity fees with the Group funds based on the current monies available, and the effort put in by the member/families towards that activity.

Annually the Group looks at some of these activities:

- Raffles
- Cake sales
- Sock sales
- Chocolate sales
- Scout Job week
- Bunnings BBQ's

Jamboree/Cuboree/Woonara funds

It is expected that any member looking at attending a Jamboree/Cuboree/Woonara 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/Cuboree/Woonara fee plus the travel fee. This is not guaranteed. For the AJ2013 Jamboree the cost was \$1500 per youth.

A points system is used to fairly allocate monies based on hours of service given. This may mean that not everyone will get the 50%. So start early and you may even get more that 50%.

Section Specific Information

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

Version one

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

Version two

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:

Version one

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

Version two

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

The 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 42 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 or at least twice a term.

Ceremonies

When the complete Troop meets it is generally opened by the duty Patrol Leader who calls the Troop to fall in, forming a hollow square shape. 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, Prayers and then the Troop is dismissed. If someone is becoming a Scout for the first time an investiture will take place at the beginning of the night.