

Welcome to 2024

FUNDRAISING



Our Trustee Board are working hard on raising funds for the Group so that we can buy new equipment and pay for activities.

We will have a stall at **Lindfield Village Day** on 1st June

Another date for your diary is our **Quiz Night** with fish and chip supper on 26th October.

In the meantime, people can support the group with EasyFundraising <https://www.easypundraising.org.uk/causes/5thhaywardsheathscouts/>



It is easier to use than in the past because there is a widget you can download which will remind you when you use an eligible website. Tiny amounts really add up and it costs you 0.

We also have a JustGiving page where people can make donations to support the Group <https://www.justgiving.com/5thhaywardsheathstpauls>

HOODIES/POLO SHIRTS

Optional group logo hoodies are available from Dropped Stitch in Portslade <https://www.thedroppedstitch.co.uk/product-category/youth-organisations/scouting-uniforms/west-sussex/5th-haywards-heath-st-pauls/>

They are Navy Blue. Child sizes are £7 (polo) and £20 (hoody). They are not part of uniform, they are your choice, and we do not make any money from the sale. For safeguarding reasons we have decided not to have children's names on the tops.



Newsletter

JANUARY 24

Dates for this term

Most weekends in Feb/Mar—Overland training

24th February Checkpoint Challenge (Scouts)

25th February 5-6pm- Church Parade (All)

2nd March— Monopoly Run (Scouts)

23/24 March—Overland (Scouts)

28th April - St George's Day parade Burgess Hill (All)



Winter Scout Camp took place from 19th to 21st January

PROGRAMMES

Leaders met over Christmas to plan programmes for all Sections. There is loads of fun stuff to come including climbing, Mosque visit, pancakes, First Aid, cooking, swimming, farm visits, walks, DIY, crafts, fire station visits and scouting skills.

All Scouts (including those who are under 12 and therefore too young to take part in the Overland itself) are invited to Mid Sussex's excellent Overland training programme which consists of hikes with challenge points along the way. Two of them include overnights as the actual challenge includes camping.



CAN YOU HELP US DRY OUR TENT?

We need a space to dry our big Mess Tent 4-5 times a year usually a Sunday afternoon to Tuesday morning. Any large-ish, dry, indoor space such as a garage would do. Please contact Fred if you can help

SQUIRRELS—Coming soon



We've had to postpone opening Squirrels because of lack of leaders.

But, we have also realised what a hard job it would be for someone completely new to Scouting. Fred is planning to run some 'Taster' sessions on Tuesdays in March (12, 19 and 26th at 4.15 in St Paul's Church) as we have plenty of interested families.

FINANCES AND OSM

Please make sure your child's OSM entry is up to date, and that you are responding to the requests for Subs (£14 a month). We are getting a lot of failed payments at the moment.

Regular reminder that no-one should be excluded from Scouting because they can't afford it. Please do speak to Fred or a leader, in confidence, if you need advice on how we can help reduce costs.



SECOND-HAND GEAR

Trustees are working on setting up a second-hand system to enable people to buy or hire clothing and equipment such as boots, waterproofs, rucksacks and sleeping bags. This is for both environmental reasons and for making it possible for families to participate in outdoor activities without huge costs. Please keep hold of any items you may have that your own child has outgrown.



Future Dates

2nd June 5-6pm—Church Parade (All)

9th June— Go Beavers!

14-16th June—Cub Camp

29-30 June—Hardy Cup (Scouts Camping Competition)

13th July—AGM (All, plus parents/carers)

27 July—3rd August Scout Camp

26th October Quiz Night

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Everyone involved in Scouting is a volunteer. We are VERY grateful for all their time and skills that they give so generously. We are always in need of more help. Helping is fun, you'll be part of a great team and there is plenty of support and training if you are new to Scouting.

Everyone who helps regularly, or at camps, needs to be DBS checked even if you are not taking on an official leader role.

All help is welcome, but right now we are particularly in need of

- Beaver leaders
- Trustee Board members
- Squirrels leaders
- Parents to sign up to help at sessions

<https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteer/>

CHURCH PARADE AND ST GEORGE'S DAY



Thank you to everyone who came to Remembrance Day in November.

Our turnout at Church Parade (next is **Feb 25th**) is very low which is quite embarrassing as

the church is very supportive of the Group. We totally understand that not everyone is religious but you don't have to be religious to attend church parade.

We are also hoping to have a good turnout for the District St George's Day parade on the afternoon 28th April in Burgess Hill. St George was chosen by Lord Robert Baden-Powell as Scouting's patron saint so this is a big, important event.

Please come to both if you can.

Contact: Fred Thomas (Group Scout Leader)
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5hscouts.org and on Facebook