

1st Claygate Scout Group



About Explorer Scouts



Claygate Scout Centre
Oaken Lane
Claygate
Esher
Surrey
KT10 0RQ
Tel.: 01372 461770

Web site www.claygatescouts.org

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Membership form (for completions)

1 Introduction

You are about to join the Explorer Scout Unit which meets at 1st Claygate Group Scout Centre but is run by the District and takes its membership from outside Claygate.

If you have been a scout with 1st Claygate we are glad that you are continuing your association with us. If not, we welcome you and hope you will feel able to join in some of the Group activities which are introduced in this booklet. All booklets, including one about the organisation of the Group, are available on the website www.claygatescouts.org.

When you joined the Group your parents became members of the Group Council, which usually meets once a year at the Group AGM. The Group relies on parents for support by either helping with a section, helping with the general running of the Group or helping with at least two fund-raising events a year. We hope you will encourage your parents to do something to help in this way. With this booklet you may have received another about the Group. Please complete the Membership Information form at the end of it if you have not already done so, or wish to update information, and return it to your section leader as soon as possible. There is a copy of the form on our website if you need it.

Thank you

Hugh Gostling, Group Scout Leader

April 2010

2 About Explorer Scouts

Our Explorer Scout Unit is known as the Chimaeras Unit and takes boys and girls from 14 years up and is based at 1st Claygate Scout Centre. It is one of 6 units run by the District and you can belong to the unit until you are 18. At that stage you may continue in Scouting as a member of the Scout Network.

As you probably know, the adults you will come in contact with will have been through a formal vetting process to ensure their suitability to work with young people. The leaders take part in a comprehensive training programme including First Aid Training. For activities such as Archery, Caving, Canoeing, Mountaineering, Hiking etc. we have a number of trained scouters to lead these events and they do everything they can to maintain safety.

The unit does not have a grouping system like the preceding sections. Instead it operates through a Unit Executive which is a group of 4 members elected annually by the unit. One of the 4 is elected to be the Unit Chairman and they are responsible for assisting the leaders to run the unit and acting as a go-between. The programme is prepared by the leaders and will include more adventurous and specialised activities than you may have encountered to date. You will be treated more like a young adult and will be expected to behave accordingly.

Explorers often camp abroad and interact more closely and more often with other units. Weekly meetings tend to take place away from base more often than you may have been used to.

Any questions about the unit can be directed to the Explorer Leader, Ed Bowles or to the District representatives. The unit is not formally part of the group but has close links so please feel free to speak to Hugh Gostling our Group Scout Leader or Harry Jones, chairman of our Group Executive if necessary. Contact details are in the Who's Who section below.

Don't forget to visit the scout association website at www.scoutbase.org.uk if you haven't already done so.

2.1 Aims of the Explorer Scout Programme

There are eight areas which should be covered in the Explorer Scout programme. These are:

- Outdoors
- Skills
- Physical Recreation
- Community Service
- Environment
- International
- Relationships
- Values.

The core values identified are

- fun
- getting on with others
- activity
- keeping the Promise
- personal development
- working together
- responsibility.

For more information visit <http://www.scoutbase.org.uk/6to25/explorerer/index.htm>.

2.2 The Uniform

The Explorer Scout Uniform comprises:

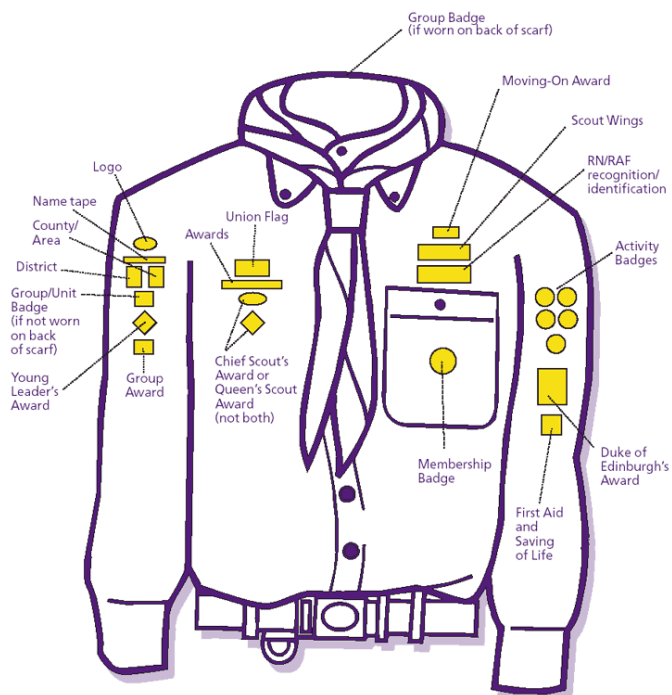
- Beige long sleeve or short sleeve shirt or blouse;
- Explorer Scout Unit scarf which is khaki (like the Groups scarf) but with a blue edging, and woggle;
- Navy blue activity trousers or smart navy blue skirt;
- Scout belt / Explorer Belt and buckle.

Shirt and trousers, as well as other items such as T-shirts and caps, can be obtained from the Walton & Weybridge Scout Shop, 4th Walton Headquarters, Cottimore Lane, Walton-on-Thames, KT12 2BX. It is open on Mondays from 3.30-5pm and Wednesday from 7-9pm during term time only. Alternatively items can be ordered on-line from the Scout Shop; www.scoutshops.com.

In addition we do have a limited stock of second-hand uniforms held at HQ. Details of what is available can be obtained from your leader.

2.3 Badges & Awards

There are 14 activity badges which can be achieved. The following diagram shows where these need to be positioned on the Scout Uniform. You can find a larger version of this at <http://www.scoutbase.org.uk/6to25/explorer/badges/uniform.htm>.



The Membership Badge will be presented at your investiture and is worn on the front pocket. Further information on badges and awards is available on the website <http://www.scoutbase.org.uk/6to25/explorer/badges/index.htm>

The awards are The Chief Scout's Platinum Award, The Chief Scout's Bronze Award and the Queens Scout Award but the main target is achievement of the Duke of Edinburgh Award. There are published leaflets available on this which you may obtain on request.

2.4 The Promise

On My Honour, I promise that I will do my best
To do my duty to God and to the Queen,
To help other people
And to keep the Scout Law

2.5 The Motto

Be Prepared

2.6 The Law

- A Scout is to be trusted.
- A Scout is loyal.
- A Scout is friendly and considerate.
- A Scout belongs to the worldwide family of Scouts.
- A Scout has courage in all difficulties.
- A Scout makes good use of time and is careful of possessions and property.
- A Scout has self-respect and respect for others.

2.7 The Investiture

You will be formally invested after a short time with the unit as agreed with the leaders.

2.8 Moving on to the Scout Network

At 18 you may be moving away from home and wish to take part in the Scout Network which is run centrally. You will always be welcome back to the Group if you return to Claygate and can eventually join our thriving Service Crew to renew friendships and maybe become Young Leaders.

2.9 Points of interest

The Centre has pigeon holes for Scouters which may be used if for any reason you wish to contact another leader. The phone number for our HQ is on the front cover and can be used to contact leaders in an emergency. Our khaki coloured scarf shows that we were one of the first groups to join the Scouting Movement. The other groups have more colourful scarves but it is worth remembering why we are different.

Members of the Scout Association always shake hands with their left hand. This is a sign of trust which originates from Baden Powell's meeting with Zulu warriors who laid down their shield (held in their left hand) to greet him.

3 District and Group Events

There are a number of annual events which are usually run by the District.

- Cooking Competition
- Volleyball
- Survival Event
- Four Inns Walk (for over 16s) - a 45 mile, 24 hour walk
- Games Evening with other units
- 5-aside Football
- Group Swimming Gala
- Winter Activities Event – walking, caving & climbing

You will always be welcome to camp at the Group Activity Weekend in May and also to take part in the annual St Georges Day Parade and Remembrance Sunday.

If you are an experienced musician you may like to join the 1st Claygate Scout and Guide Band. It's a great way of using your own talent to encourage younger members of the Group. Details can be obtained from Robin Wilkinson.

3.1 Subscriptions

Membership subscriptions are levied three times a year on 1st April, 1st September and 1st January. They are calculated on an annual basis and revised annually. You will receive a request for payment in the first weeks of term and will be asked to post monies to the Membership Secretary who also coordinates subscriptions.

The current subscription for Explorer Scouts is : **£123 per annum (£41 per term)**

An additional subscription of £1.50 per week is requested from band members to cover the provision of uniform, refreshments and other band expenses.

4 Useful Contacts

4.1 Group Leaders

G.S.L.	:	Hugh Gostling
A.G.S.L.	:	Graham Gibbs
A.G.S.L.	:	Debbie Bowles

Group Chairman : Harry Jones

4.2 Explorer Scout Unit

E.S.L. : Edward Bowles
A.E S.L. : Graham Copland-Cale
A.E S.L. : Alison Cartwright
Assistant : Melanie Copland-Cale

1st Claygate Scout Group

(Founded 1909)



Membership Information

Not only does this form give us important information it also enables parents to take part in activities (If only for providing transport to and from camp) having been 'cleared' by the Scout Association, a necessary process before all adults have contact with young people. Please return this form to your child's section Leader at the next meeting or e-mail it and copy to gostling.family@ntlworld.com An electronic version of this form is available from Hugh Gostling or the Group Web Site – www.claygatescouts.org.

Section: _____ (e.g. Maple Beavers)

Child's Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

Post Code: _____

Tel. No: _____

E-mail address: _____

Emergency Contact details for during meeting: _____

School: _____

Place of worship/faith: _____

Parents/Guardians names: _____

Fathers occupation: _____

Mothers Occupation: _____

Child's special needs-medical, dietary, social, educational: _____

Relatives in Group/ Friends in section: _____

Is there anything else you would like us to know? _____

P.T.O

www.claygatescouts.org

Registered Charity No.308135

Child's Name: _____

Section: _____

As mentioned already it is a requirement of your child's membership that you either help with a section, help with the general running of the Group or help with two fund-raising events per year. If you want further details on these please either contact your child's section Leader, or Hugh Gostling. Could you please indicate your preference below:

	Father	Mother
Help with a section:	_____	_____
Help with Service Crew:	_____	_____
Help at a camp etc:	_____	_____
Help with transport for camp: (Have Van/lorry for transporting equipment)	_____	_____
Help with fund-raising:	_____	_____
Serve on a sub-committee: (Please indicate which one)	_____	_____
Help with building maintenance:	_____	_____
Help with grounds maintenance:	_____	_____
Help with cleaning of the Centre:	_____	_____
Please indicate if either of you have ever been involved in Scouting or Guiding as a member or helper	_____	_____

Data Protection

This information will be held on computer for the Group's use and will only be used for scouting purposes. The Group will not pass on e-mail address to other parties outside of Scouting and e-mail addresses will only be used to provide information about Scouting events.

If you object please contact Harry Jones.