

# ***Welcome to Cub Scouts!!!***

This letter is for all parents of new children joining our Scout Group. First of all let us welcome you to the 1<sup>ST</sup> BLAIRGOWRIE Scout Group. Now that you are thinking about your child joining The Scout Association, this email aims to give you more information about the Cub Scouts and our Scout Group, so that your child can get the most out of it! Scouting is an international movement with a worldwide membership of 28 million members from all different faiths, cultures and backgrounds. For more information on the National and International Scout organisations check out [www.scouts.org.za](http://www.scouts.org.za).

## ***The Cub Pack***

**T**he Cub Pack that your child is joining is and his/her assistant leaders. These will have undertaken special training to They will also have undergone a vetting take part with the Packs activities.

The Pack has traditional ceremonies which the end of their evenings as well as other special investiture when your child becomes an official Association. At this time Cubs are asked to generally invited to this ceremony which after joining the Pack.



led by a Cub Scout Leader 'Akela' people give their time freely and help them do an effective job. procedure prior to being allowed to

Cubs take part in at the start and events. One of these includes the member of The Scout make a promise. Parents are normally takes place 3 to 4 weeks

## ***What do Cubs do?***

Cubs will have a great deal of fun whilst in the Pack, taking part in many activities and outings, which are communicated to you via the termly programme and will also be emailed to you. They will also have the opportunity to gain a wide range of awards in the pack. These are given in recognition of taking part in specific activities and the effort they have made.

The aim of the Scout movement is to provide an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training based upon the CUB PROMISE & LAW guided by adult leadership. Once your child reaches the age of 11 they will move into Scouts & adopt the SCOUT PROMISE AND LAW guided by adult leadership. In plain English, this means the young people will be involved in social and physical activities covering a wide variety of subjects from home safety to camping, to community service. This is achieved through weekly meetings, outings, District events and pack holidays.

## ***Our Scout Group***

1st Blairgowrie Cub & Scout Group is part of the international scouting movement and are part of GAUTENG DISTRICT Scout Association. We participate in adventurous outdoor activities through a

progressive training award scheme from 7 to 18 years old. The Group is fairly large and one of the more successful in the North West District, priding its self on the numerous awards and accolades we have picked up over the past year. The Group is run and managed by a friendly, committed and experienced adult leadership team. We very much encourage 'family involvement' because Scouting is not just merely a youth club, but a 'values' based organisation and we encourage you to support and join in our activities.

Your child will have the opportunity to progress though to the other sections when they reach the appropriate age. All sections meet on a Friday evening. Each section is under the control of the 'Section Leader' and our Group Scout Leader, Mike Vella has overall responsibility for the sections, his number is

Group Scouter:	Mike Vella	082 879 3653
Troop Scouter:	Hilton Goodhead	083 212 0174
Pack Scouters:	Leon & Andree Venter	084 468 6467 or 082 806 3284

## **MEETINGS**

Weekly meetings are held during school term time at the BLAIRGWORIE SCOUT HALL, Cnr 1<sup>st</sup> Ave, Linden & Windeena Ave, BLAIRGWORIE. Cubs have their meeting on a Friday afternoon/evening. Meetings start at 1700 and finish at 1900 (unless otherwise specified).

**DO NOT** drop off without checking an adult leader is present, no earlier than 1645, collect promptly at 1900 from within the hall. If you wish to speak to any leader we are available before and after the meetings or maybe contacted at home as follows:-

Cubs Leaders are - AKELA – Leon Venter - 084 468 6467, BALOO – Andree Venter – 082 806 3284 & BHAGEERA - Rudi Voges - 083 258 8889

All programmes, camps, activities and information is available from Baloo & will be emailed to you in due course.

## ***Forms to complete...***

Please find attached First Term program 2010.

Please find attached the annual consent form (A Scouting legality) – **please ensure that these are completed ASAP & returned to me by 29 Jan 2010.** This is important to the continued attendance of your cub for the new Year. I have also attached the Cub questionnaire so that we have up to date information on your cub & helps us to assess his entry level into cubs. Please complete the cub questionnaire as soon as possible & return it to me so that I may start your child's file & it is important that we keep our records up to date.

## ***Cost of SCOUTING***

Subscription of R 750.00 PER YEAR PAYABLE WITHIN the FIRST TERM, & covers weekly meetings. New members to the Scouting movement will be charged a once off joining fee of R 100. Please contact Melinda Chetter – Group Treasurer: Melinda Chetter on 083 602 1428.

Camps and other outside activities attract extra costs & you will be notified prior to the event.

Uniforms are available from the nearest Scout shop. There is one in Bramley : 3 Glen Road, Bramley . You may contact Margie on 011 440 6490/1 . The Scarf for Blairgowrie is green & gold and will be supplied on joining. All the above are mandatory.

## DISCIPLINE

To run a group we do need to keep some form of discipline. The young people are at meetings to learn and have a good time. We will encourage this and provide a varied and we hope enjoyable programme. We need the help of the young people to make this happen and would therefore ask all parents and guardians to talk to their children and remind them of what is expected of them.

TO SHOW RESPECT TO THE LEADERS AND OTHERS

TO LISTEN AND ACT ON INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN TO THEM

TO RESPECT SCOUT CEREMONIES

NOT TO INSTIGATE OR PARTICIPATE IN FIGHTING OR BULLYING

## ***So how can YOU help?***

One evening your child may come home and say that they need to take something along to Cubs next week. They will probably expect you to help them find the object, or help them prepare for a coming event, for example a fancy dress party. There are many other ways that you can also help.

- Offering a skill to help train or help one of the sections for a badge or award.
- Help prepare refreshments for a section of Group event. – See Sandwich list on cub notice board.
- Help to transport some to any event away from the hall.
- Support the Scout Group at social evenings
- Support the Group's fund raising activities.
- Join the Executive committee and help manage the Scout Group.

As you can see, we have a busy term ahead of us, with Akela (Leon) & I busy every Friday & most Saturday's for the month of May. So any volunteers to help with the listed week-end activities would be greatly appreciated.

Due to the extended holiday over the world cup period, Gauteng's North West district has decided to hold a camp 18 – 20 Jun 2010. This is still being finalized as we are looking for an appropriate venue. Traditionally we close the last Friday of the term & re-open again the first Friday of the new term. The June/July 2010 holiday period will be slightly different. We will run our weekly meeting until the 18<sup>th</sup> Jun, do the week-end camp & then close.

Depending on how many parents volunteer to help us, we are aiming to run a daily program the week of 5-9 July to catch up on outstanding badge work. This will be a morning only program & parents will be advised closer to the time.

Lastly, one of our objectives this term is to complete & manage a worm farm & work on a vegetable patch. I would greatly appreciate assistance from any parents with green fingers.

Here's looking forward to another successful Cubbing year.

Happy Hunting!



Andree Venter (aka Baloo)  
082 806 3284