

Our Sea Scout Group was started in 1910 and is currently one of the largest in the area. We have four sections catering for youngsters from the age of six to twenty years of age. There are waiting lists for the Beaver Scouts and Cub Scouts and the Scout Section continues to grow in size. There are Explorer Scouts, the oldest group as well.

## **Beaver Scouts**

These are the 6 – 8 year olds who meet on a Tuesday evening between 5-30 pm and 6-45 pm. The numbers are limited by the Scout Association to 24 and their theme is "Fun and Friends"

## Cub Scouts

This section is the 8 - 11 year olds who meet on a Thursday evening between 6-30 pm and 8 pm. Maximum numbers for the pack are 36 and they have a structured training programme and can earn many proficiency badges for all sorts of things during their time with the section. They usually have an annual camp during the summer months.

## Scout Section

Scouts cater or the youngsters from 10 HALF to 14 years of age, there is some flexibility in the age range. They meet on a Friday evening from 7 pm until 9 pm but when we can get afloat the meeting is brought forward to start at 6-30 pm to allow more time on the water. Weather permitting we spend as much time as possible afloat in our fleet of canoes, kayaks, pulling and power boats as well as some sailing dinghies. Their training programme includes seamanship and compass work as well as camping, pioneering and orienteering skills.

## **Explorer Section**

Progressing from the troop from 14 onwards the lads and lasses prepare much of their own programme which does contain some Scouting and a lot of social activities as well. They do help out with the Troop and other sections as well at times attending camps and other activities. They can work towards their Queen Scout badge as well as their Duke of Edinburgh's awards. They spend much of their time during the summer afloat from the headquarters at Walmer. Currently they meet on a Monday evening unless there is something else on.



We have achieved Royal Navy recognition for our standards, something we are deeply proud of because there are only 101 Sea Scout Groups who can wear this badge, 100 in the United Kingdom.

Through this recognition we are privileged to be able to attend various activities at Royal Navy establishments. We are inspected on a regular basis by the Royal Navy to check that we are maintaining those high standards. We can wear with pride the RN recognition badge and we can fly the defaced red ensign to show what we have achieved.

The Group is run by a dedicated team of leaders who have various qualifications in differing fields and who show great commitment to Scouting for your children, all we ask is that you support what they do and remember **They only get out of Scouting what they put in** and we will expect your help with this. That said our motto is **"If its not fun its not Scouting"**.

To support all this we do have to fund raise and run many events through the year backed by a super Executive Committee who help raise the money needed to keep a group of this size afloat, so to speak. We welcome new members on the committee and expect to see you at fund raising events enjoying yourselves and meeting the leaders as well.

Please do not hesitate to speak to any of the leaders or myself about any issues you may have or any ideas to help are always welcome.

Chris Goodwin

Group Scout Leader

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