

# 1st Holmes Chapel Scout Group



Join the Adventure  
gsl@holmeschapelscoutgroup.co.uk  
<http://www.holmeschapelscoutgroup.co.uk>

## Easter Newsletter

Welcome to the Easter Newsletter from Holmes Chapel Scouts.

You are receiving this because we have your details in our system due to either yourself or your child is involved with the Scout Group.

If you no longer wish to receive these messages, please contact [GDPR@HolmesChapelScouts.org.uk](mailto:GDPR@HolmesChapelScouts.org.uk) and we will remove your details.

### Group Scout Leader

Due to work commitments, we are sorry to report that Peter Deegan has stood down as our Group Scout Leader. We are all very grateful to Peter for the hard work he put into helping the group move forward and improve.

It is with great pleasure we can announce that Alan Jackson has changed role, from being Scout Leader to take up the mantle of heading the group as Group Scout Leader.

If you need to contact Alan, please email him at [Alan.Jackson@HolmesChapelScouts.org.uk](mailto:Alan.Jackson@HolmesChapelScouts.org.uk)

### Section Leader Changes

Over the last few months, we have seen an influx of new leaders in several sections.

Suzie Gregory initially joined Maple Beavers but has now moved upstairs to take over as Akela for Croco Cubs, allowing Alison Wright (Dane's Akela) to return to just having one Cub pack to organise. We are all very grateful to Alison for the support she has been able to give to both Cub packs while she "stood in" to support the Monday Cubs.

Suzie is being joined after the Easter break by Gemma Allsop-Brown who has also recently moved into the village and is an experienced Cub leader. Gemma also has the enviable pleasure of being part of the World Scout Jamboree staff team later this summer in West Virginia, USA.

The Cubs section have also benefited from the recent move into the village of Mica Thorpe, who comes to us with experience of working with Cubs. Mica is currently helping both Croco and Dane packs as an Assistant Cub Scout Leader.

The Scouts section are losing Alan as their leader in charge, but he is being replaced by one of our two new Scout leaders who have come to us with previous Scouting experience. Lewis Barlow takes the reigns as Scout Leader having previously been an Assistant Scout Leader in Lancashire. Lewis also attended the World Scout Jamboree in Sweden in 2011 and has been involved in Scouting since he was a Beaver. Neil Bishop also joins the Scouts' leadership team after spending some time in the background in Scouting in Manchester. Neil has previously held several different roles in Scouting over the last 30 years.

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Additionally, we also have one of our parent helpers, Tim Griggs, stepping up to become a Scout Section Assistant.

Welcome to all our new leaders!

While the above are great additions to the Leadership team within the group, we are always looking for more adults to come along and help support our young people. That doesn't have to be leading young people, it could be that you have some other skills that will help our group run even more efficiently.

For example, we currently have a vacancy for a Group Secretary to help with the organisation of the Executive Committee. This role requires supporting the Executive Committee when they meet (typically once a month).

Several of the sections would benefit from additional helpers. Currently, several operate with a parent rota and this is a great way to appreciate how rewarding helping with the young people can be.

If you are interested in helping, please speak to one of the current leaders or contact Alan Jackson ([Alan.Jackson@HolmesChapelScouts.org.uk](mailto:Alan.Jackson@HolmesChapelScouts.org.uk)) to find out how you could help.

Whatever role you undertake, a DBS will be required (free of charge) and full training and support will be provided that is appropriate to the role.

## Termly Subs

With the start of a new term brings the request for paying subs.

We now have about 66% of these payments coming in online through OSM and GoCardless. Paying by this route makes life much easier for our section leaders as it is one less thing to have to worry about.

When paying by direct debit, you can either automatically allow us to collect the Subs when they become due (end of January, April and September) or you can opt to make the payment manually. You are always emailed about all upcoming payments and are protected by the Direct Debit Guarantee.

## Camping Season

I'm sure you'll be aware that we are rapidly approaching our main camping season. I believe all sections have at least one camp planned over the next term.

Don't forget that you have the opportunity to get an extra 10% off at Go-Outdoors with our special voucher ([click here](#)). This can be used on-line or in-store.

Speaking of in-store; if you usually use Go-Outdoors in Hanley, I believe this store is currently closed for renovations. Our next closest stores are in Stockport and Warrington.

We are trialling making on-line payments for camps and events with the Scouts section over the summer term. Once we have collected feedback from parents involved, we shall look to make this option available more widely.

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## Family Quiz Evening

We have one of our Young Leaders (Dan – Scouts) is attending this year’s World Scout Jamboree in West Virginia. He will be amongst 40,000 Scouts from around the world camping together for 12 days. Supporting all these Scouts, there is an International Service Team that run all the activities; one of our new leaders (Gemma – Croco) is part of this team.

We are hosting a quiz evening on 27<sup>th</sup> April in the HQ for support them in their fundraising. Please bring a team along to take part and help them in their cause. A licensed bar will be available.

## Important Dates this term

Date		
Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Easter Monday	No meetings
Tues 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Start of term	Beech Beavers & Dane Cubs return
Wed 24 <sup>th</sup> April		Willow Beavers return
Fri 26 <sup>th</sup> April		Scouts return
Sun 28 <sup>th</sup> April	St. George’s Day Celebration	See event invitation via OSM
Mon 29 <sup>th</sup> April		Maple Beavers & Croco Cubs return
Tues 30 <sup>th</sup> April	Subs Due	Direct Debit payment initiated
Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> May	May Day Bank Holiday	No meetings
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Break up for half term	
Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Return after half term	Maple & Croco restart
June – date tbc		Group AGM. Everyone invited.
Wed 17 <sup>th</sup> July		Break up for Summer Holidays