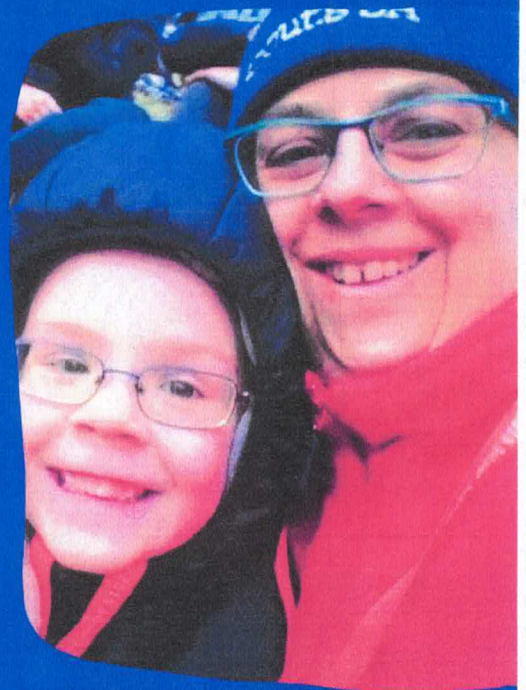


# Welcome to **Ridgehaven Scout Group**



Information Pack  
for new families starting in Scouting



# A word from Huw Williams, Group Leader

As a new member, or a returning member, we welcome you to Ridgehaven Scout Group and look forward to many rewarding years of fun and adventure with you and your child.

Ridgehaven Scout Group has a rich history of quality adventures, and we'll be celebrating 50 Years of Scouting at Ridgehaven in 2024.

This booklet is designed to give you an insight into what lies ahead and to answer some of the questions you will no doubt have. There may well be questions that are not answered here; please feel free to ask any of the Leaders or Group Committee volunteers.

We look forward to meeting you at our new families night this term!



## A bit about Scouting...

The Scout movement, the World's largest youth organisation, exists in more than 200 countries worldwide and has in excess of 57 Million members! Scouting has been in existence since 1907 - in Australia since 1908.

Anyone can join Scouting from 5 years of age, and may continue through the sections until they are adults at age 26. Many of our adult leaders were youth members in Scouts themselves. Scouting emphasises nature, adventure, citizenship, leadership & having great fun. It develops skills, knowledge and attitudes that benefit our children throughout their lives.

From the Joey Section onwards, young people are gradually given more opportunity to work in small autonomous (but supervised) groups in order to develop leadership skills.

By enrolling your child in Scouts you are giving them the opportunity for a fun educational experience above and beyond what the school system offers.



**FUN  
FACT**

Huw enjoys sailing and mentoring young people in this thrilling sport!



Scouts Australia is a member of the World Organisation of the Scout Movement.



You're invited to

# Come and Try Scouting!

You are welcome to "Come and Try" Scouts at Ridgehaven. Your child is automatically covered by the Scouts SA insurance for three weeks, allowing them to participate in the Group activities.



We invite you to fill in our Trial member application before you come or wait till you visit: <https://sa.myscout.com.au/formations/43600/trialyouth> or use the QR code at the bottom of the page.

After the 3 weeks, the 'Application to Join' should be completed, and membership fees (including Scout Association registration, group fees and Section fees) become due. You will get two emails with information on how to complete the application.

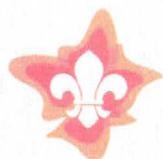
Once joined you will receive an account from the treasurer and an Investiture (joining ceremony) is conducted for new members, it is expected that an invested member wears their uniform to section nights (See Page 5).



**Trial Member  
Application**

# Youth Sections

Ridgehaven has five Sections that meet on various nights each week.



**Joey Scouts**

approx. 5 to 8 years old

Monday 6pm to 7pm

Discover adventure



**Cub Scouts**

approx. 8 to 11 years old

Tuesday 6:30pm to 8pm

and

Wednesday 7pm to 8:30pm

Create the path

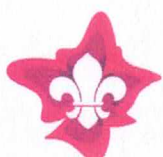


**Scouts**

approx. 11 to 15 years old

Friday 7pm to 9pm

Explore the unknown



**Venturer Scouts**

approx. 15 to 18 years old

Friday 7pm to 9pm

(unless otherwise noted)

Look wide



**Rover Scouts**

18 to 26 years old

Rover Scouts are not hosted at Ridgehaven, the nearest Units can be found at Hope Valley and Salisbury.

Beyond the horizon



## Scout Uniforms

From the night of investiture, your child will be expected to wear uniform. Scouts uniforms are available from Exurbia, 134A The Parade, Norwood or you can visit them online at [exurbia.com.au/scout-shop/](http://exurbia.com.au/scout-shop/)

For formal occasions the uniform should be worn with stone coloured pants or skirt. For all other activities can be either blue, black or stone pants or shorts.

Regulation stone pants can be sourced from Exurbia or those found in local department stores are acceptable.

Your child will receive their Ridgehaven scarf, woggle and several badges at their investiture, the cost is included in your first account.

Please ensure all items of clothing are named. Most badges are provided by the Group. If these items are lost, we ask that you replace them at cost.

Optional items are available these are worn to some outside events, they are practical and also an easy way for everyone to identify members of our Group when not wearing uniform. For details and sizing contact [uniforms@ridgehaven.sa.scouts.com.au](mailto:uniforms@ridgehaven.sa.scouts.com.au)



# Your Involvement at Ridgehaven Scout Group

There is an expectation that parents/caregivers will be involved in Ridgehaven Scout Group. We appreciate that personal commitments will vary greatly but as we are a volunteer organisation every contribution counts toward providing the best Scouting experience for our kids. We cannot operate without parent input and there are a variety of ways that you can contribute

## **Assisting with Section Nights**

All sections would appreciate an extra pair of hands, eyes and ears at their meetings. You might be willing to attend camp or have a particular skill you can share. Please speak to your Section Leader about becoming a parent helper.

## **Joining the Support Committee**

This is not a very hard task – it really only involves a monthly meeting and helping to organize a few fundraising activities and maintaining our grounds and equipment etc. It is expected that every family will be represented on the Committee, for a least one term of office, during their child's Scouting career

## **Fundraising**

10% (approx.) of the group's running costs need to be raised through fundraising. We expect that all parents will support these efforts. Fundraising activities have in the past included sausage sizzles, quiz nights and chocolate sales. Recently we have taken advantage of People's Choice Lottery tickets and Entertainment books. We also apply for grants from Government & other entities. New ideas are welcome, as are many hands assisting! Our fundraising committee would welcome your help. Contact : [fundraising.team@ridgehaven.sa.scouts.com.au](mailto:fundraising.team@ridgehaven.sa.scouts.com.au).

## **Transporting children to activities**

Parent help is required to assist with transporting the children to various activities included in our program. With everyone contributing to carpooling we can avoid having to pass on transport costs for camps and excursions.

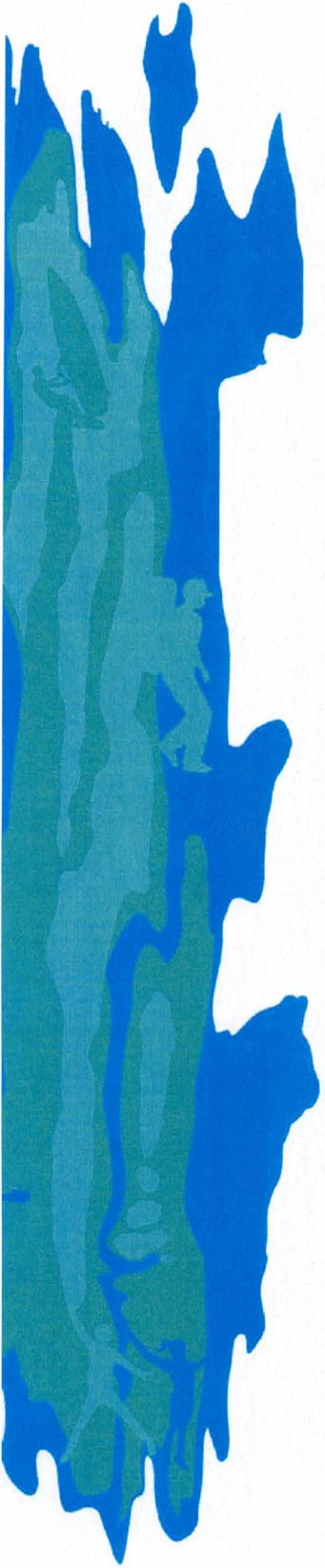
## **Working Bees**

Once a term, if needed, the committee organises a working bee. This might be a general tidy-up or there may be some very specific jobs that need to be done. There is an expectation that all families participate at least once a year. These working bees are social events and are a great opportunity to meet other Scouting parents.

## **Become an adult leader**

If you are interested in becoming a Leader, please speak to any of the Leaders. They will tell you that they have just as much fun as the children and get a very real sense of achievement of doing something worthwhile for the community.





### **Encouraging your child**

At the heart of Scouting is the idea of 'Learning by Doing'. Scouting is not about sitting on the sidelines and watching but 'having a go' and developing perseverance. Depending on the Section your child is joining there are many opportunities to earn badges.

As your child progresses through the Sections they will be expected to take more responsibility for themselves and their achievements, commensurate with their greater experience and maturity. The costs of any badges are covered in your fees. If you need any information about how to support you child in earning badges or any other area of Scouting, please do not hesitate to speak to your Section Leader who will be more than happy to help.

### **Your Expectations**

Now, what's in it for you and your child? You can reasonably expect your child to be in the hands of capable and caring Leaders who have a commitment to provide a stimulating and interesting program designed to assist children to develop into self-reliant and responsible members of the community.

All of our adult leaders have undertaken thorough training and hold current National Police Clearances and a Working with Children Check.

The Leaders take their task of fulfilling the aims of Scouting very seriously. They undertake to take every reasonable care of your child, and to do their best, in partnership with you, to help your child to develop to their full potential.

### **In Summary**

Your child will get out of Scouting not only what they put in, but what you as a family are able to assist with. Our Group works hard to build a "family" of many families who help each other to provide the best possible resources, facilities and support in order to provide great Scouting to the youth members in our care.

We encourage you to get involved, meet other families and help out where you can and we thank you for taking the time to consider Scouting at Ridgehaven.

**If you would like to get involved in our community,  
please contact Huw Williams**

**"it takes a village to raise a child"**

Ancient proverb

# Finances

Fees are due at the start of each school term. Your prompt payment of your account will ensure we can access resources for the term's activities. Options are available to pay a whole year up front.

If, however, there are any extenuating circumstances that prevent you from meeting your account payment on time, then please contact the Group Leader or the Treasurer. All matters are treated with the strictest confidence.

Scouting is a Not-For-Profit organisation and the fees are used to cover items such as:

- Sectional activities
- New equipment and resources such as tents, kayaks, boats, ropes, cooking gear, games equipment etc.
- Insurance
- Badges, certificates etc.
- Maintenance of the Scout Hall and equipment as well as utility bills (water, electricity, insurance)
- Leader uniforms and training

All of the above costs the Group over \$40,000 per year.

Fees include Group running costs, Section budget contribution. Note, fees are reviewed annually.

Affiliation to Scouts SA., is billed separately when its due, on joining and in your anniversary month.

Naturally with Scouting being fundamentally an outdoors based program there will, from time to time, be sleepovers, camps, hikes and other excursions, which your child will no doubt want to attend. The cost of these activities, which is kept to a minimum, covers items like food and site fees, is in addition to the termly fees.



# Who's Who

## at Ridgehaven Scout Group

### Group Leader

Huw Williams (Pinaroo) - 0403 178 691

Email: [gl.ridgehaven@sa.scouts.com.au](mailto:gl.ridgehaven@sa.scouts.com.au)

### Assistant Group Leader

Wendy Simpson (Alinga)

Email: [agl.ridgehaven@sa.scouts.com.au](mailto:agl.ridgehaven@sa.scouts.com.au)

### Group Support Committee

**Chairperson: Alan Chilman**

[chairperson@ridgehaven.sa.scouts.com.au](mailto:chairperson@ridgehaven.sa.scouts.com.au)

**Secretary and Publicity: Pauline Huettenrauch**

[committee.secretary@ridgehaven.sa.scouts.com.au](mailto:committee.secretary@ridgehaven.sa.scouts.com.au)

**Treasurer: Deb Russell**

[treasurer@ridgehaven.sa.scouts.com.au](mailto:treasurer@ridgehaven.sa.scouts.com.au)

**Quartermaster and Membership Officer: Shane Warner**

[quartermaster@ridgehaven.sa.scouts.com.au](mailto:quartermaster@ridgehaven.sa.scouts.com.au)

[membership.officer@ridgehaven.sa.scouts.com.au](mailto:membership.officer@ridgehaven.sa.scouts.com.au)

**Committee Members:**



**Scouting is not possible  
without volunteers**