

Welcome

Hello everyone!

Hope you all had a great summer break and welcome to our latest newsletter.

Welcome to our new school year

We hope you've all enjoyed a well-earned rest, plenty of sunshine, and maybe even a few adventures of your own. As we start a brand new term, our leaders are excited to welcome back all our Cubs, Scouts and families for another season of skills, challenges and fun.

We also welcome a number of new young people to Cubs and Scouts.

This term is extra special as we proudly introduce our new Explorer Unit. Read more about this below.

Here's to a brilliant term ahead, full of teamwork, learning, Scouting spirit and...

Skills for life



Our Website

Our website has been very popular and provides you with key information, please visit

www.bmscoutgroup.org.uk

It's the home for all things Scouting in Branchley and Matfield — news, photos, event details, hall bookings, and more. Take a look and let us know what you think!

WE NEED YOU!

Group Treasurer

Our Group Treasurer, Sarah, has sadly had to step down from her role. We want to extend our heartfelt thanks for everything she has contributed over the past year — her time, care and commitment have been hugely appreciated. We are now looking for a new volunteer to take on this important role. If you'd like to find out more or have a chat about what's involved, please speak with Nick, our Group Lead Volunteer.

Don't bin it, donate it

Did you know you can help us raise money simply by recycling your old printer ink cartridges? We now have a dedicated collection box in the Scout hut. Just pop your used cartridges in the box next time you're visiting. It's an easy way to help the environment and raise funds for the group.



Hire Our Hall!

Did you know our Scout Hut is available to hire for parties, meetings, or events?

- 💰 Only £15 per hour
- 🌐 Book via our website



Who are the Explorers?

We're excited to announce the launch of our Explorer Unit after a number of years of it being closed.

Explorers are young people aged 14 to 18, and this section offers them the chance to take their Scouting adventure to the next level.

Explorers get stuck into bigger challenges, broader skills and more independence. They take part in activities such as advanced outdoor skills, leadership opportunities, community projects, and plenty of hands-on adventures that help them grow confidence and resilience.

We're thrilled to welcome our new Explorers into the Group. Their energy, ideas and enthusiasm will bring something special to our wider Scouting family, and we can't wait to see what they achieve this term.

We're also delighted to introduce our brand-new Explorer leadership team, headed up by George, who many of you will know from our Scout section. George has been a dedicated and enthusiastic member of the Scout leadership team, and we're thrilled to see him step into this new role. Alongside a small team of committed volunteers, George will be guiding our Explorers through bigger challenges, new skills and exciting opportunities as they grow into confident young adults. Their passion and experience will help shape a fantastic start for the unit.



Welcome Explorers

Subscriptions

FAO of Cub and Scout Parent/Guardians,

A quick reminder for all families: the Trustee Board has confirmed a gradual increase to our termly subscriptions. This helps us continue delivering the exciting, high-quality programme our young people enjoy, while also supporting the running and upkeep of our Scout Hut.

To recap, the phased changes are:

- September 2026: £50 per term (scheduled in OSM for 7th September)
- January 2027: £55 per term (scheduled in OSM for 11th January)
- September 2027: £60 per term (date to be confirmed)

We know subscription changes are never ideal, which is why the increase is being introduced slowly over the year. As always, we never want finances to prevent a young person from taking part in Scouting. If the new rates may cause difficulty, please speak to a leader or trustee in confidence — we're here to help. If you'd like a refresher on how subscriptions support the group, you can read more in Newsletter Issue 2 on our website:

[Newsletter Issue 2 – February 2026](#)

Thank you for your continued support of 1st Brenchley & Matfield Scout Group — it truly makes a difference.

Explorers- we shall confirm after trustee meeting your subs

Our Cubs did some crazy games to celebrate the 110th Birthday of Nationwide Cubs





Waiting List

In having a young person in our Group (or joining), you might be asked by friends how they can sign their child up.

Our Scout Group has seen more enquiries than ever from young people wanting to join Cubs, Scouts and Explorers. It's fantastic to see so much enthusiasm for Scouting in our community, and we're grateful to every family who reaches out. As much as we'd love to welcome every young person straight away, we're limited by a few important factors:

- UK Scouting adult-to-youth ratios
- The number of volunteer leaders we currently have
- The size of our Scout Hut
- Ensuring space for young people already in the Group to progress through each section



We currently run three sections: Cubs (ages 8–10.5), Scouts (ages 10.5–14) and Explorers (ages 14–18). As an example, this term we were able to welcome 10 new starters to our Cub pack, and our Cub Pack is now full.

To help manage demand fairly, we review our waiting list towards the end of each term (Autumn, Spring, Summer) and take in a new intake at the start of the following term wherever space allows.

Joining our waiting list is not a guarantee of a place, but it ensures your child is considered whenever spaces become available.

If you'd like to add your young person to the waiting list, please visit: <https://www.onlinescoutmanager.co.uk/waiting-list/1st-brenchley-matfield-waiting-list/a17d036f-1bb4-41ee-bbbf-62ce3fb90250/apply>.

Thank you for your continued support (and for your patience!) as we work hard to offer safe, high-quality Scouting to as many young people as we can.



A huge welcome to our new leaders throughout the 3 sections. They will be able to introduce themselves at the AGM/BBQ (details below). In the meantime thank you so much for joining us and all you are going to do!

Did you know?

You could be raising **FREE** Donations for
1st Brenchley & Matfield Scout Group
whenever you shop online!

ebay

Argos

John Lewis
& PARTNERS

ASOS

Booking.com

M&S

Here's how it works!

1. JOIN FOR FREE!

Go to:



easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/1st-Brenchley-and-Matfield-Scout-Group

2. START SHOPPING!

✓ Visit Easyfundraising & find your favourite retailers

3. RAISE DONATIONS!

After you check out,
the Scout Group gets
a donation!

No cost. No catch. Just **FREE** donations!

Thank you for your support!

 **easyfundraising**
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**1st Brenchley
& Matfield
Scout Group**

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★ JOIN US FOR THE ★

SCOUT GROUP

AGM & BBQ



Scouts
1st Brenchley
and Matfield™

Wednesday, 23rd September '26

- 6PM - 8PM -

Brenchley Scout Hut, TN12 7NY



BBQ - BOUNCY CASTLE - SUMO SUIT FUN!

All Cubs, Scouts, Explorers & Families Welcome!

Suggested Donation: £2.50 per person / Max £10 per family

All money will be taken on the evening via cash or our card machine.

PLEASE PRE-BOOK VIA THE LINK ON OUR GROUP WEBSITE:

www.bmscoutgroup.org.uk/page-agm_2026



Join Us for a Great Cause!

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KENT SCOUTS **BIG SLEEPOUT** *for Porchlight 2026*

Scouts
1st Brenchley
and Matfield

Supporting the Homeless

SATURDAY 3rd OCTOBER

At the Scout Hall & Field

Sleep in a
Cardboard City!

Family Fun Day Activities!

-  Tombola & Raffle
-  Cake Sale & Tuck Shop
-  Soak the Leaders! 
-  Popcorn & Candy Floss
-  Hook-a-Bottle & More!

Raise Funds for Porchlight!

Sponsor a Scout & Donate to Help the Homeless

**Get Involved &
Make a Difference!**

Learn More at

www.porchlight.org.uk

justgiving.com/fundraising/PaulBatchelor