



# 1<sup>st</sup> Ballan Scout Group

PO Box 39  
Ballan  
Victoria 3342

Ph. 0419 582-959  
E. [gl.ballan1st@vicscouts.asn.au](mailto:gl.ballan1st@vicscouts.asn.au)  
W. [www.1stballanscouts.com.au](http://www.1stballanscouts.com.au)

Hello,

My name is Bruce Hallett – my Scouting name is Shark – and I am the 1<sup>st</sup> Ballan Group Leader.


Thank you for expressing interest in your child joining the wonderful 1<sup>st</sup> Ballan Scout Group.

As a Scout group we meet on a weekly basis at the:-



- St Pauls Uniting Church Hall  
Corner Windle & Inglis Streets  
Ballan 3342

When do we meet at the Hall?

SECTION	JOEY SCOUTS	CUB SCOUTS	SCOUTS	VENTURERS
AGE RANGE	5 – 8	7½ - 10	11 – 14	15 – 18
NIGHTS	Monday	Monday	Wednesday	Please contact me for more information
TIME	6:30pm – 7:30pm	6:30pm – 8:00pm	6:30pm – 8:30pm	
				

All Sections of the Scout Association are open to both females & males.





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Hopefully, the following information will help answer a number of your questions. However, if you still have questions, enquiries or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me, or, research our wonderful website:-

- Phone:- 0419 582-959
- Email:- [gl.ballan1st@vicscouts.asn.au](mailto:gl.ballan1st@vicscouts.asn.au)
- Website:- [www.1stballanscouts.com.au](http://www.1stballanscouts.com.au)

My role as Group Leader is to manage the affairs of the Group to ensure it has the resources and back-up needed to support the section leaders. Essentially it is to ensure the section leaders are able to deliver the best possible program and Scouting experience to your child.



Created by Lord Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden – Powell Scouting is a worldwide movement that has shaped the development of youth and adults for over 100 years. Scouts are in every part of our community, and Scouts is the biggest and most successful youth organisation in Australia and the World. By enrolling your child in Scouting you will be giving them the opportunity for a fun educational experience above and beyond what the school system offers. In this respect Scouting is often referred to as non-formal education.

Scouting, which has been in existence since 1907, and in Australia since 1908, has the aim to encourage the physical, intellectual, emotional, social and spiritual development of young people so that they take a constructive place in society as a member of their local, national & international community. Young people are accepted into Scouting from 5 years of age, and may continue through the different sections until they are young adults at age 26.



Today Scouting is currently active in 216 Countries around the world and has a global membership of over 31 million males & females.






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Our Leaders are volunteers from the community, often the parents of Scout-age children, who have an interest in developing young people's potential.

1 <sup>st</sup> Ballan Joey Scout Leaders		
		
<b>Possum (Fiona Conroy)</b>	<b>Echidna (Ben Davie)</b>	<b>Wombat (Tony Bellette)</b>

Leaders are put through a rigorous selection and training process. All potential Leaders are given full police and referee checks, must obtain a Working With Children Check Card (in Victoria) then supervised and trained fully before they are able to work with young people on their own.

1 <sup>st</sup> Ballan Cub Scout Leaders		
		
<b>Akela (Shane Hall)</b>	<b>Raksha (Phil Shaw)</b>	<b>Bagheera (Debbie MacFarlane)</b>

Leaders receive no financial reward for the work they do in the Group.

1 <sup>st</sup> Ballan Scout Leaders	
	
<b>Hawk (Jim Leahy)</b>	<b>Koala (Zaiga Meadows)</b>





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As a visitor your child is welcome to attend section meetings to experience the Scout program. It is expected that after 2-3 weeks you will be in a position to decide if your child wishes to join as a Youth Member. Whilst attending as a Youth Visitor your child is not covered by the Scouts Victoria Personal Accident Insurance Policy. Should your child wish to join as a Youth Member please complete the attached Youth Membership Form (please print both sides) and return to me with the appropriate fee as shown below.

## Membership Fees

There is a cost involved with Scouting which is made up of three components;

1. The Scout Association of Australia, Victorian Branch Membership Fee – \$168.00pa (pro-rata by quarters)

This amount is paid by the Group to the Victorian Branch to register your child in Scouting.

2. The 1<sup>st</sup> Ballan Scout Group Fee – \$100.00pa (pro-rata by quarters)

This fee is also required to cover the cost of equipment, leader training, as well as the 'normal' running expenses of the Group. This is a family fee, not a per youth member fee.

3. Section Fees

Each of our sections charges a small term fee of around \$20 per term to cover the cost of badges and some activities.

Joeys:- \$20 early each term  
Cubs & Scouts:- \$2 each week.





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If you have made the decision for your child to join, investiture can take place once payment of your membership fees are made. The initial joining fee can be either paid by cheque and posted to:-

- 1<sup>st</sup> Ballan Scout Group  
PO Box 39  
Ballan, 3342

OR, paid direct to the 1<sup>st</sup> Ballan Group's bank account:-

- **1st Ballan Scouts Group Committee**  
**BSB: 633-000**  
**Account: 145343844**

Should you choose to pay by direct deposit could you please include the surname in the deposit and email a receipt to myself at [gl.ballan1st@vicscouts.asn.au](mailto:gl.ballan1st@vicscouts.asn.au) – thank you.

As soon as payment is received the section leader will arrange your child's investiture and communicate with you about this very special event, where all family members & close friends are welcome to attend.

## Uniform

A uniform is also needed and can be purchased online at:-

- [www.thescoutshop.com.au](http://www.thescoutshop.com.au)

<b>Joey Scout Uniform</b>	<b>Cub Scout Uniform</b>	<b>Scout Uniform</b>





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I recommend comparing sizes with our existing youth members before making a purchase though exchange is quite easy. Uniform details and where to sew badges for the various sections can be found at [www.vicscouts.com.au](http://www.vicscouts.com.au) under the relevant youth section tab.

Detailed information on the Joey Scout Badge placement and information about each Badge can be found on our very own website:-

- [www.1stballanscouts.com.au](http://www.1stballanscouts.com.au)
  - Place the cursor of the 'Joey Link' and move down the dropdown link and click on 'Badgework'

Your child's section leaders can give you more details on the uniform and the different badges available for them to earn.

**Note:** When buying a uniform, you do not need to purchase any badges, as these are provided at the appropriate time by the Group.

## Equipment

We either own or have access to a large range of extensive camping and adventure equipment such as tents, ropes, cooking gear. The cost of this equipment is met by community donations and fund-raising events. When your child joins Scouts, they will be benefiting from the efforts of the community over the years to acquire these resources. It is essential that current families do their bit to support all fund-raising activities & events toward the continuing purchase and maintenance of this equipment and other resources for the Group.





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## Personal Equipment

In years to come you may need to equip your child/ren with items of personal equipment such as:-

				
<b>Mess Kit</b>	<b>Sleeping Bag</b>	<b>Backpack</b>	<b>Sleeping Mattress</b>	<b>Solid Shoes</b>

and so on. The older your child gets the more of this type of equipment he or she will want. However, there is no rush to buy these things and they make great ideas for birthdays and Christmas. It is always worth buying good quality equipment that will last and continue to be suitable for many years. Seek advice from the Leaders where reputable retailers can be found.





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## In summary...

There is a cost to Scouting, as few things come free in this world, but be assured that you don't need to buy it all tomorrow. If you have an issue meeting the costs of Scouting for your child please do not be afraid to have a private chat to me as there are ways in which we can help you out.

What is more important is that you support your son or daughter throughout their time in Scouting, not just with money but with love and encouragement. I encourage you to get to know the Leaders, and other parents of children in the Section. Don't be surprised if we ask for your help in running a number of events and activities throughout the year, as we cannot survive without your help.

Scouting isn't just somewhere else to drop the kids. It's a chance to grow up with them and that's a great experience for both of you. Your involvement with our group can be as flexible as you wish. The only things we do ask is that you show your interest and encouragement and give your time to participate with your child whenever you can.

If you have any concerns about your child's experience in Scouting we are always available to talk and can be contacted on the number below.

Once again welcome to Scouting and 1st Ballan Scout Group. I look forward to many years of enjoyable Scouting experiences for you and your child. In the meantime if you have any queries please feel free to contact me.

Yours in Scouting

*Bruce Hallett*

Bruce Hallett  
Group Leader, 1st Ballan Scout Group  
Scouts Australia, Victorian Branch

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