



HAPPY BIRTHDAY CAMP : EARLY INFORMATION PACK

INTRODUCTION

Wow, we're looking forward to a super Happy Birthday camp!

Thank you all for your bookings – there's going to be some 200 young people every day at camp.

This early information pack provides more information to that already set out on the District website <https://www.richmondscouts.org.uk/happy-birthday-camp-2025> .

The pack includes new information on what District would like Groups/Units to provide to help make camp into an even more memorable Scout camp for its participants – and leaders!

YOUNG PEOPLE NUMBERS

For the numbers which have been booked we've already a fully worked out programme for the activities and days to the zoo. There are no or very few spare on-site activities early in the week. There are almost no spare seats on the coaches for the Thursday zoo trip.

Please update any change in numbers asap and we can see if and how any increase in participants might be accommodated. Please e-mail us at: happybirthday@richmondscouts.org.uk

DATES AND PROGRAMME

Full amount for camp is payable to District by **Saturday 5th July 2025**

Leaders meeting 2-3:30pm **Sunday 20th July 2025** at Kerswell Hall– one leader from each group/unit is required to attend.

Friday 1st August – camp set up for adult volunteers only

Saturday 2nd August – young person arrivals and check in, camp set up and opening ceremony/party

Sunday 3rd August – the full camp experience and first wide game

Monday 4th August – the full camp experience, volleyball and wide games

Tuesday 5th August – the full camp experience, volleyball and wide games plus zoo trips for specific groups/units

Wednesday 6th August – the Big Birthday Party – games, party food and more games - followed by the big camp fire

Thursday 7th August – the full camp experience, volleyball and wide games plus zoo trips for specific groups/units

Friday 8th August – the full camp experience plus zoo trips for specific groups/units followed by closing ceremony/party

Saturday 9th August – strike camp and dispersal



CAMP LOCATIONS

Assumed allocations for those who have booked are as follows (there is a map of PACCAR on the last page of this information pack):

Petersham & Ham	D + F
Magellan ESU	M
3rd Whitton	24
2nd Mortlake	G
Burton ESU	H
2nd Whitton	9 / 10
7th Hampton	8
3rd Hampton	N
13th Twickenham	C + B
North Richmond	Q+S+R
1st Richmond	P + O
1 st Whitton	L
East Sheen	to be confirmed
Network	19
Beaver hut	18

FREETIME ACTIVITIES

This will be a more Scouty¹ camp than the Korea Jamboree camp two years ago.

One request that we got following the Korea Jamboree camp was a wish to have longer blocks of free time – so we will be providing whole mornings/afternoons free of booked activities for sections.

Explorers and Scouts who are taking part the whole week will have three blocks of three hours of free time. Cubs who are taking part the whole week will have two blocks of three hours of free time.

But free time is an opportunity for leaders to provide outdoor-related activities which count towards badges and, ultimately, the top awards.

Outdoor activity means things that are best done at camp – for example, for Cubs this could be backwoods cooking or pioneer badges, not bookreader badge, collector badge etc!

There are three ways in which young people can gain more out of camp:

1. Activity provided by District

The District team plan to offer a pioneering activity – A frame walking - for Cubs, Scouts and Explorers:

You will be able to book a slot at the leaders meeting on the 20th July

2. Activities Provided by groups/units for themselves

Groups/units can do their own activities – provided by the group for the group. This may include badgework and other outdoor skills.

¹ "Scouty" is an adjective, often used informally, meaning resembling a scout or suitable for scouts.



For example, there are facilities available at PACCAR to undertake orienteering, hikes and additional pioneering.

Why not work towards your Hikes Away Staged Activity Badge?

Cubs, Scouts and Explorers can explore the local area with one or more hike routes selected by PACCAR. These vary from a couple of hours to all day. If you're thinking of completing one of the longer or more complex routes then your group/unit will need to bring an OS map.

Route options are as follows (control and click on the link for more information):

[Route 1 – CStP – CStGiles – Roberts Wood](#)

[Route 2 – Roberts Wood – Ch St Giles – Ch St Peter](#)

[Route 3 – Grand Union – Denham](#)

[Route 4 – Ch St Giles – Ch St Peter](#)

[Route 5 – CStP – Seer Grn – Ch St Giles](#)

[Route 6 – Ch St Giles – Seer Grn – Ch St Peter](#)

[Route 7 – Night Hike](#)

3. Activities provided by Groups/Units for Groups/Units

We would like each group or unit to offer an activity for other groups/units – to work towards or achieve an appropriate badge - during their free periods. Of course you can provide the activity when you wish to your own group/unit during their free time!

Please pick one of the following activities which will help young people earn badges during camp – and contribute to their top awards. Each activity should last an hour.

Options are:

- Environmental Conservation;
- Backswood cooking;
- Personal safety;
- Pioneer;
- Entertainer (something for the camp fire?);
- Artist;
- Survival skills;
- Knife and axe

Please let us know what activity your group/unit can provide – e-mail the team at happybirthday@richmondscouts.org.uk Please advise by 10 July.

Activities provided by groups/units for groups/units is a group-to-group thing or unit-to-unit thing, rather than being centrally managed by District Team, we will post the free time programme on the District website – keep a lookout at:

<https://www.richmondscouts.org.uk/happy-birthday-camp-2025>

HAPPY BIRTHDAY PARTY

We plan that the whole Happy Birthday event, except for the evening camp fire, will take place centrally on the main arena. Everything will need to be ready by 10am.

The timetable for the day is currently planned as follows:



- 1000 – 1200 Big Birthday Party – party games provided by groups/units;
- 1230 – 1330 Big Birthday Party – party food;
- 1400 – 1530 Big Birthday Party - games and music provided by District;
- 2000 – 2130 The Big Camp fire

1. Games - provided by Groups/Units

We would like Groups/Units to provide a fun activity – something that, over the course of the morning, all 200 young people participating on the Wednesday night join-in.

Examples are: pin the tail on the donkey, splat the rat, ring tossing....

Please let the team know your planned party activity by 10 July. If groups/units have the same idea, obviously the group/unit which notifies us first gets to deliver it!

2. Games - provided by District

During the afternoon the District team will provide games for **everyone** to join-in!

3.. Catering

The centrepiece will be the grand party picnic at lunchtime. This needs to be catered for by groups and units – to ensure that all dietary requirements of participants are being met.

For those with severe allergy issues, please ensure that your risk assessments cover practical prevention but also appropriate reaction, if anything gets cross contaminated, as your group/unit will be away from your own base.

CAMP FIRE

The camp fire is always a memorable event – smoke, flames, laughter, songs, sketches etc.

Does your group/unit – leaders, young people or a mix - have budding singers, musicians, joke tellers or a group who wants to perform a sketch? Think Entertainer badge!

Camp fire will be no more than 1½ hour long and contributions must be no more than 5 minutes!

Please let the District team know what you, your leaders, Cubs, Scouts or Explorers can do to entertain us! Please advise the District Team by 10 July.

VOLLEYBALL COMPETITION

A camp isn't a camp without a volleyball competition – but we will be missing the late, great, Ossie Stanley. So in his memory, let's have a competition at camp for Cubs, Scouts and Explorers.

The game will be a bit different – not a knockout competition, but run on points – points scored and points difference. Any tie on points and difference will have a playoff.

The timetable is (all evenings):

- Monday – Cubs;
- Tuesday – Scouts;
- Thursday – Explorers;

Pre-booking will be required – more details soon.



WIDE GAMES

As last year, we plan to run wide games – but participants will need to be managed by their leaders, to ensure that it is run safely.

The timetable is (all evenings):

- Sunday – Cubs (for early week participants);
- Monday – Scouts;
- Tuesday – Explorers;
- Thursday – Cubs (for later week participants)

Pre-booking will be required – more details soon.

FORMS

Just a reminder that you will need to have forms for every young person at camp. Details of the forms and links are available on the District website here:

<https://www.richmondscouts.org.uk/members-area/forms>

Nights Away Notifications must now be submitted via the national Scout Membership system which you can access via My Membership and then programme support and then Nights away notification

You will also need your risk assessment to be uploaded at the same time you submit your NAN.

Full details of the NAN process is available on the UK Scout website here:

<https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/volunteer-experience/digital-tool-guides/nights-away/>

Other model forms are available via the members area of the District website:

- Young person medical form – in case these need updating;
- Activity information form;
- Nights away information form (for in touch contact information);
- Rifle shooting activity information form - download the word version from the District website (link as above), so that the location can be updated to PACCAR – this is required for using the rifle range.

No rifle shooting permission form, no shooting – those with permission forms in place will be identified on their camp IDs.

RISK ASSESSMENTS

As a part of your NAN form, you will need to upload a risk assessment.

You do need to write a risk assessment for the following as a minimum:

- Travel to/from PACCAR;
- Badgework or related activities provided by your Group/Unit for (a) themselves and (b) other groups/units;
- Games provided by your Group/Unit during the Wednesday Happy Birthday party;
- All catering/Happy Birthday party catering – including hygiene and managing allergy risk, as appropriate;
- Any other on-site activities you provide for your young people not provided by PACCAR or District team, including any camp fire activities provided by your group/unit, as appropriate;



- Any other off-site activities you choose to do, including off-site hikes;
- Generic camping risk

But you don't need to include the following within your Group/Unit risk assessment:

- activities provided and run by PACCAR within the site
- activities and games provided by the District team:
 - Volleyball competition
 - Wide games
 - Games provided by District during the Wednesday Happy Birthday party
 - Badge work activities provided by District
 - The camp fire elements organised by the District team
 - Off-site trips organised by the District team – e.g. zoo trip, including coach transport

SECURITY

Don't forget to spread the message that:

- anyone coming to camp must be checked in and be issued with a lanyard with their ID;
- anyone with no lanyard/ID (unless within their own site) will be either escorted off the site or to HQ to be collected by a leader

ANY QUESTIONS?

E-mail us: happybirthday@richmondscouts.org.uk

ACTIVITIES

Abseiling 23
Adventure Area 7
Archery 2
Campfire Circle 13
High Ropes 12
Nightline 10
Pedal Karts 8
Rabbit Run 9
Rifle Range 3
Twin Zip Wires 11

Bushcraft Areas 24
Crate Stacking (Tower) 23
Gladiator Challenge 23
High All Aboard 23
Leap of Faith 23
Quick Drop 23
Team Building 1

BUILDINGS

Maclean 16
Margaret Noble 18
Multi Faith Area 20
Rowallan 14
Roy's Reservation 19
Trailfinders 17
Walsh Hall 15
Wash up Area 21

