



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

We serve the township of Emerald and surrounding areas situated in the Dandenong Ranges East of Melbourne in Victoria.

Our Group consists of the following sections

- Joey Scouts (6 - 8 years)
- Cub Scouts (7.5 to 11 years)
- Scouts (10.5 to 15 years)
- Venturers (14.5 to 18 years)
- Rovers (17.5 to 26 years)
- FEAT Mt Dandenong Region Abseiling Team

## When?

Cubs - Mondays 7pm - 8.30pm

Scouts - Thursdays 7.00pm - 9.00pm

See our website [www.emeraldscouts.org.au](http://www.emeraldscouts.org.au) for up to date programs and other information.

## Contacts

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Cubs

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Kim Ranatunga 5968 6559 or 0433 854 582

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Scouts

Paul Pavlinovich, 5968 2572, 0407 537 674,

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John Conway, 5968 4083, [jfgconway@yahoo.com](mailto:jfgconway@yahoo.com)

Other - Group Leader Mevan Ranatunga 5968 6559

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Scouts 1800 726 881

## Why would I join Scouts?

The main aim of Scouting is fun - lots of it! You'll gain new friends and get to experience things you've never dreamed of. At the same time you'll learn survival and leadership skills that will help you throughout your whole life.

There's a lot more to Scouting than the local Scout Hall. As well as ever popular camping, you can also have a go at adventurous activities like abseiling... canoeing... steam railways... caving... rock climbing... flying... performing arts... to name just a few things!

Being a member of the Scouts helps build your confidence and teamwork skills. Scouts can participate in a broad range of activities that most of the planet doesn't get the chance to experience. Would you be able to survive in the bush all by yourself? Scouting can teach you how.

Challenges that face Scout age youth include the transition from primary to secondary school and puberty. Scouts help relieve the stress of these processes by providing a constant source of friends and support. A Scout is never alone.

You will become involved in your local community through events like ANZAC and Remembrance day, environmental activities such as tree plantings and Clean Up Australia day.

Tired of playing the same meaningless video games all the time? Want to really achieve something? Come along! All sections offer try-before-you-buy style introductory nights where there is no cost and no obligation. Parent Helpers are always welcome.

All of our sections always welcome expressions of interest from youth (boys and girls) who wish to join our Scouting community or perhaps just want to find out more. Please feel free to contact us by phone or email and [www.emeraldscouts.org.au](http://www.emeraldscouts.org.au) for the latest program.

## The Aim

The aim of Scouting is to encourage the physical, intellectual, emotional, social and spiritual development of young people, so that they can take a constructive place in society as responsible citizens, and as members of their local, national and international communities.



Cubs & Scouts on ANZAC Day at Emerald RSL

## The Principles

The principles of Scouting, as identified by the Founder, are that all members should serve their God, act in consideration of the needs of others, and develop and use their abilities to the betterment of themselves, their families and the community in which they live. It should be noted that to serve my God is not limited only to Christian beliefs. All races and religions are welcome.

## The Methods

The principle methods used by the Association to achieve its aim are:

- Voluntary membership of a uniformed group which, guided by adults, is increasingly self-governing in its successive age groups.
- Commitment to a code of living as expressed in the Promise and Law, the meaning of which is expanded as the member grows towards maturity.
- The provision of a wide range of attractive, constructive and challenging activities, including opportunities for adventure and exploration both indoors and outdoors.
- The provision of opportunities for leadership and responsibility.
- Learning by doing.
- Encouragement of activity in small groups.
- An award scheme, which encourages participation in its full range of activities and provides recognition of individual achievements.

## Costs – Free to Try

Scouts is free to trial for three hall activities.

Listed below is the Group fee structure for 2011/2012. These fees cover the cost of running the activities for each of the sections and provide the Group with some funding to improve the hall and group equipment.

Term: 1, 3 and 4 \$70

Term: 2 \$120 (all goes to Scouts Victoria)

New youth: Add \$20 to the first term joining

Leaders and Committee Members get \$5 discount per youth per term.

Lots of kids? 3<sup>rd</sup> and subsequent youth members receive a substantial discount.

Other costs: Throughout the year the group holds a number of activities and events both in and out of the hall such as special theme nights, camps, hikes, four wheel driving, communications, welding, environment, snow, canoeing, river expeditions, etc. These activities have costs in addition to the fees. The activities are run at cost. The costs are evenly distributed amongst those attending. All group members are expected to attend the majority of these events where they fit in with family and other commitments. Where possible, the leaders will make the costs known as early in the term as possible via the term program. Where costs are cannot be reasonably known in advance, an estimate will be provided.

## Protection of Youth Members

All Adult and Youth members of 1st Emerald group must agree to comply with a voluntary code of conduct. There are strict policies and rules in place through the Scouting Movement that all Youth and Adults must comply with. All Adult Members are required to undergo regular Police Checks, hold a current Victorian Working With Children Card, and undergo continuous improvement through training and exposure to other troops. Adults are continuously monitored by their peers, District and Branch.



## Uniform

All members are required to purchase the uniform shirt from Snowgum. All badges, scarf and record book are provided by the group.

## Parent Involvement

There are many ways parents can become involved.

- Uniformed Leaders - become a leader and work with the youth
- Parent Committee - supports the group by providing facilities and ensuring the group is financially viable
- Hall maintenance
- Adult Supporters - work with the youth helping the Leaders

## Fundraising

From time to time the group will hold fundraising activities. Our group runs a Christmas Tree drive, operates the parking for the shows at Puffing Billy's Emerald Station and is involved in other community events. Often the group will fundraise on behalf of other community groups such as the R.S.L. and the local primary school. All families are required to help with these events on a fair roster basis as they help meet the group operating costs reducing the need to dip into your own pockets.

Major events such as Jamboree, Cuboree, other intrastate, interstate, and international events may have special fundraising drives associated with them.

## History of Emerald Scouts

1st Emerald Scout Group is the oldest scout group in the Dandenong ranges. Formed on 1st July 1923 by the Rev. Noel Danne of St. Mark's church and since then hundreds of families have been parts of this group. Rev. Danne attended the first wood badge training course held at Lilydale in 1925. The following year, Gilwell Park, Gembrook was established.

In 1958 1st Emerald Scout Group moved from St. Marks to its present location in Kilvington Drive at Hogan Park. In the early 1970's the hall was extended to include a conference and storage rooms, plus a kitchen and toilets.

The hall was named the Gus Ryberg, in honour of Gus Ryberg for his commitment to the local community. Gus was part of 1st Emerald's first intake of Scouts in 1923. The hall dedication was made by the Groups first Queen Scout (1954) and Local Councilor Cr. Graeme Legge, also present was Cley Worrell, another member of the original enrolment of 1923.

The Group celebrated its 85th anniversary with a ceremony and social event on Saturday 26th July 2008. The event was attended by over 100 people with past and present association with the group, and the newly installed flag pole outside the hall was used for the first time for parade. A local stonemason Tim Bamford, who's wife was the scout leader at the time and who's five boys were all involved in the scout group, has constructed a stone cairn around that base of the flag pole which should stand for many years to come.

Leaders from the local community, many of whom are involved in several aspects of our local community operate the group.

The group is about to reinvigorate our tired hall including new kitchen and toilets and other upgrades.