



WELCOME

to

**2nd WILLOUGHBY HOMENETMEN
ANTRANIG SCOUTS**

This booklet gives you an overview of 2nd Willoughby Homenetmen Antranig Scout Group.

By joining this Scout group, your child becomes a registered member of Scouts Australia, joining the largest youth movement in the world, with over 26 million members in 220 countries.

Your child also becomes a member of Homenetmen - the largest Armenian Youth Organisation in the world. When you join Homenetmen, you become part of this world-wide family. We always use 'Kouyr' and 'Yeghpair' when addressing any Homenetmen member.

Homenetmen Antranig is the oldest and largest Homenetmen Chapter in Australia, established in 1965. In 2015, Homenetmen Antranig celebrates 50 years in Australia.

THE AIM OF SCOUTING

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

BEING PART OF HOMENETMEN SCOUTS

In addition to the above aims of Scouting, being part of Homenetmen Scouts means we also aim to instil the values of Homenetmen – a 'healthy mind in a healthy body'. Patriotism and a bond to our Armenian heritage and culture are important as well as encouraging our Scouts to take an active place within the Armenian community.

To support this aim, meetings are run mostly in Armenian. The Homenetmen Scouts course content is integrated into the program alongside the Scouts Australia course content. This includes the Homenetmen Scouts Awards Scheme, learning Armenian songs, knowledge and commemorating significant events in the Armenian calendar. Scouts aged 14 years and above also have the opportunity to attend the International Homenetmen Jamboree held in Armenia every 4 years.

Most importantly, Scouts have the opportunity to make life-long Armenian friends, in a safe, nurturing Armenian environment.

WHAT IS SCOUTING ALL ABOUT?

Scouting is all about fun, being in the outdoors, making friends and adventure. Games of all kinds, outings and camps, hikes and skill development activities are combined to form a unique program for young people of all ages.

An Award Scheme operates in each Section (except Joey Scouts) which allows the members a wide variety of activities and skills in which they can participate and receive recognition with the awarding of an appropriate badge. These awards are graded to the person's age and ability and are designed to assist the member in fulfilling our aim. Through all Sections there is the continuing opportunity for young people to work together learning co-operation, responsibility, leadership skills and the sharing of group experiences.

SECTION INFORMATION

2nd Willoughby Homenetmen Antranig Scouts consists of the following Sections.

Joey Mob – for boys and girls aged 6-8 years. Joeys must be 6 years old (by 31st March), or in Year 1 at school.

Cub Pack – for boys and girls aged 8-11 years. Cubs must be 8 years old (by 31st March), or in Year 3 at school.

Scout Troop – for boys and girls aged 11-15 years. Scouts must be 11 years old (by 31st March), or in Year 6 at school.

Venturer Scout Unit – for boys and girls aged 15-18 years. Venturers must be 15 years old (by 31st March), or in Year 10 at school.

Each section has a clearly laid out program of development in order to achieve the Aim of Scouting.

MEETING TIMES

Joeys and Cubs meet on Friday night from 7-8:30pm at the Armenian Cultural Centre (Agoump), 259 Peshurst Street, Willoughby.

Scouts and Venturers meet on Friday night from 6:45 – 8:45pm at the Naremburn Scout Hall, Station Street, Naremburn.

Please note that the venue can change due to community use of the agoump, therefore parents should consult the weekly email to confirm venue each week.

Meetings are held during School Term.

REGISTRATION FEES & INSURANCE

Fees for 2016 are: 1st Child - \$200, 2nd Child - \$190, 3rd Child - \$190

Plus an additional one-off \$30 Scouts Association Joining fee.

The annual registration fee covers:

- Contribution to the Scouts Association
- Insurance of members for personal accident and public liability
- Some equipment and group expenses
- Some costs associated with the Scout hall

Fees can be paid in 4 equal instalments of \$50 per child per term.

NB. The annual fees do not cover all expenses of the group, and fundraising activities are required during the year to cover these additional costs.

THE SCOUT UNIFORM

All meetings must be attended in full Scout uniform. Uniforms can be purchased online through the Scout Shop (www.thescoutshop.com.au) which offers free delivery on all items. Some items are available for purchase through the Group Support Committee – see details below.

Polo shirts – are available from the Scout Shop website www.thescoutshop.com.au



Joeys

Cubs

Scouts

Venturers

Poghab and woggle – will be supplied at a special ceremony.

Scout cap & additional woggles -
available from the Scouts Shop
website www.thescoutshop.com.au



Female Scout & Venturer Beret –
available from the Group Support
Committee.



Beige trousers – we are not strict on
the style as long as the colour
matches. Official uniform is LONG
trousers. Available from the Scouts
Shop website
www.thescoutshop.com.au



Shoes – official uniform is black school shoes.

Items for sale from Group Support Committee:



New Navy Jacket
\$30



Khaki T-Shirt
\$15



Draw String Bag
\$10

Badges – upon joining, a number of badges are provided to each Scout – which are to be sewn onto the uniform. Please see the images on the following page showing the correct placement of badges. Please note that if you have been given a second-hand uniform, please remove any earned badges (such as Achievement badges). Scouts should only be wearing uniforms they have earned themselves.



Full uniform - When scouts are asked to wear full uniform this means long beige trousers, black school shoes, hat, poghgub.

Casual uniform – Casual uniform for outings - khaki t-shirt, any style bottoms, sneakers, hat and poghgub.

The Scout Shop website: www.thescoutshop.com.au

PARENTS GET INVOLVED TOO

Our Group provides the opportunities for parents to become involved in Scouting by supporting the Group's many activities.

With your help either as a Leader, Group Support Committee member, Instructor or Examiner, your child will enjoy their experience in Scouting and will benefit greatly from them.

Please encourage your child's active participation in Scouting, as parental encouragement and assistance make it more enjoyable for everyone.

GROUP SUPPORT COMMITTEE

The Group Support Committee consists of parents and other interested people who support the work of the leaders to ensure the smooth running of the group. This support is given in a practical way by the provision of a meeting venue, equipment and other facilities. The Group Support Committee is important to the wellbeing of the group. Parents are welcome to join the Committee, which gets appointed by the Homenetmen Antranig Committee for a one year term each year. Please indicate your interest to the Antranig Committee representative.

JOEY SCOUTS

Joeys are accepted from age 6 (must be 6 by 31st March, or in Year 1 at school). They graduate to Cubs at age 8 (must be 8 by 31st March, or in Year 3 at school).

Joeys are referred to as Gagough Tatig.

The emphasis is on fun and friendship and a gentle introduction to a world of challenges and adventure in Scouting.

Joey Scouts are taught to jump in and help other people and to share with their friends. The Joey motto is Help Other People (HOP).

Joeys play lots of activities and games, do craft and go on outings.

More than anything, Joey Scouts is about having fun!

As the Joeys and Cubs share the venue on Friday nights, the Joeys and Cubs have their opening and closing ceremonies together, and have some group games together, however separate for their own group time each week.

CUB SCOUTS

Cubs are accepted from age 8 (must be 8 by 31st March, or in Year 3 at school). They graduate to Scouts at age 11 (must be 11 by 31st March, or in Year 6 at school).

Cubs are referred to as Kaylig (male cubs) and Ardzevig (female cubs).

New Cub Scouts

New Cubs Scouts will spend the first term working towards their investiture 'yertman araroghoutyun'. They learn the foundations of scouting - the Cub Scout Promise the Cub Scout Law and motto. It is at their investiture 'yertman araroghoutyun' where they will make their Cub Scout Promise 'yertoum' and will receive their 'poghgub'.

First Year of Cub Scouts

During their first year, Cub Scouts work towards achieving their Bronze Boomerang badge. The Bronze Boomerang takes one year to complete and includes topics such as health and first aid, safety, ropes, Cub Scout history and Symbols of Australia. Armenian and Homenetmen content is integrated into the Scouting content in order to achieve this badge.

Second year of Cub Scouts

In the second year, Cub Scouts work towards achieving the Silver Boomerang badge, and the Homenetmen equivalent 'miasgh' level, in which the tasks are more challenging and build on the skills and knowledge attained in the Bronze Boomerang.

Third year of Cub Scouts

In their third year, Cub Scouts work towards achieving their Gold Boomerang badge, and the knowledge and skills are more advanced based on their age and ability. Alongside this is the Homenetmen equivalent 'yergasgh'. At this level, Cubs are required to help and teach younger Cubs. Cubs can be promoted to the position of Sixer and Seconder, and are in charge of leading their 'Six'. These coveted positions help develop leadership skills, and a sense of responsibility. Younger cubs aspire to these positions.

Of particular interest for Cubs is the ability to achieve the most prestigious of all badges the **Grey Wolf Badge**. This can only be attained by completing the Gold Boomerang Badge as well as other badges and several additional challenges. Cubs aiming for this badge must be registered with the Scouts Association early in the year, so please approach the leaders with your interest. The Grey Wolf Badge must be earned before the Cub turns 11 years old.



Achievement Badges

Throughout their time in Cubs, Cubs can earn Achievement Badges which give them the opportunity to earn badges based on their area of interest. All the Achievement badges are in the Yellow Cub Scout Record Book, and are in the areas of Arts and Literature, Nature, Science and Technology, Sports and Recreation, and Our World. There will be opportunities for the Cubs to earn Achievement Badges during meetings, camps and outings. Furthermore, any Cub who has a particular interest can take the initiative and earn these badges in their own time – this is highly encouraged.

SCOUTS

Scouts are accepted from age 11 (must be 11 by 31st March or in Year 6 at school). They graduate to Venturers at age 15 (must be 15 by 31st March).

Scouts are referred to as Ari (male scouts) and Arenooosh (female scouts)

First year of Scouts

During the first term, Scouts work towards their scout investiture “yertmun araroghoutiun”, where the scout earns his/her poghgub. The remainder of the year is spent working on the Pioneer level badge which entails a number of achievement badges. The equivalent levels attained in this level are “Norakir” and “Nor Ensda” Homenetmen Scouting levels. Various topics include knots/lashings, emergency, camping knowledge, Armenian and Homenetmen topics and citizenship. Learning is done through various avenues including demonstration by leaders or older scouts, physical activity, singing, drama, play, camping, hiking and other outings.

Second year of Scouts

The second year of scouting involves working towards Explorer level badge and the equivalent “Pen Gark” Homenetmen level. Topics covered this year are various and many are expansions of first year topics. More detail and emphasis is placed on “doing” themselves rather than demonstrating.

Third year of Scouts

The third year of scouting is spent working on Adventurer level badge and its equivalent “Ayp Gark” Homenetmen level. Topics are further expanded and expectation of the scouts is that they teach younger scouts as this provides them with leadership skills.

Throughout these levels, scouts can achieve proficiency badges which they are expected to work on themselves in their own time. Leaders are always available to assist.

Scouts Fourth year

This is a very important year for scouts. They are expected to work on their scout medallion and be a positive role model for younger scouts. As leaders of the scout group, they will be responsible for their patrol groups, their tents during camps and certain programs, developing their leadership skills and sense of responsibility.

VENTURERS

Venturers are accepted from age 15 to age 18 (must be 15 by 31st March), or Year 10 at school.

Venturer Scouts are referred to as Yerets (male scouts) and Barmanouhi (female scouts)

The aim of Venturer Scouts is to provide positive experiences to help young people mature and to prepare them to become responsible and caring adults.

Venturers is based on a unique and dynamic relationship between youth and their adult leaders. The result is a program of exciting and meaningful activities that helps youth pursue their special interests, grow develop leadership skills, and become good citizens.

Members in the Venturer troop work as a team in order to reach their many goals. As a member of Venturer Scouts, they come to learn important skills like team building, public speaking, cultural/scout history, as well as scout troop management and schedule preparation. In addition, they learn to organize their time to accomplish tasks for school, scouts, and extracurricular activities.

Goals

Young adults involved in Venturing will:

- Learn to make ethical choices over their lifetimes by instilling the values in the Venturing Oath and Code.
- Experience a program that is fun and full of challenge and adventure
- Become a skilled training and program resource for Cub Scouts, Scouts, and other groups
- Acquire skills in the areas of adventure, sports, arts and hobbies, religious life and community involvement
- Experience positive leadership from adult and youth leaders and be given opportunities to take on leadership roles
- Have a chance to learn and grow in a supportive, caring, and fun environment.

The first term of Venturer scouting is spent working towards their Venturer investiture “yertmun araroghoutiun”, where the Venturer earns his/her poghgub.

The remainder of the year is spent working toward the Queen Scout award which entails a number of achievement badges. The benefit in completing this award is that it adds 4 points to the students HSC results.



The Queen Scout Award Scheme is designed for Venturer Scouts. Its aim is to widen the interests and knowledge of Venturer Scouts. Its rationale is based on the aim and methods of Scouting allowing fun, variety, personal choice and to assist in planning for a balanced program. It is a system designed to be challenging and encouraging for people over a wide range of activities. The Queen's Scout Award has four main areas. These are made up of different badges, which require different levels of approval. The four main areas are Leadership Development, Personal Growth, Outdoor Activities and Community Involvement. Approval may be required from the unit council, the District Venturer Council or a separate examiner. This peer review aims to maintain good standards for the award. Each area of the award may be completed to either first or second level.

During this time, Venturers also work towards attaining the equivalent ‘Ayp Gark’ Homenetmen Venturer scouting level which covers Armenian and Homenetmen topics and working up the ranks to becoming a leader.



OUTINGS & CAMPS

Outings and camps are an important part of the yearly program for all sections as being in the outdoors is integral to what Scouting is all about.

The October Long Weekend is when the annual Antranig Scouts camp takes place. Every second year the camp is a Homenetmen Regional camp which is attended by all Homenetmen chapters.

Section camps may also take place during the year.

Apart from camps, outings include Rock Climbing, bowling, putt-putt golf, ice-skating and outings with Homenetmen's other chapters.

Every four years, Scouts aged 14 years and over have the opportunity to attend the Homenetmen Jamboree in Armenia, the next one being in 2018.

Before attendance at any outings, an A1 form is sent home, or emailed and must be completed and returned in order to participate in the outing.



RULES & EXPECTATIONS:

COMING TO MEETINGS:

- Be punctual. Meetings start at 7pm for Joeys and Cubs, and at 6:45pm for Scouts and Venturers. All Scouts need to learn to be punctual and any late-comers may be excluded from game time.
- Late-comers must not join the group until after the opening ceremony. Please stay to the side until the leader invites you to join the group.
- Parents are required to come to the door to drop off and pick-up their children. In the case of Scouts/Venturers – we will not allow children to walk to the car park unaccompanied – we insist that parents pick children up from the door.

ATTENDANCE:

- Regular attendance is expected of all members.
- Please let your Miyavor leader know if your child will be absent from the meeting.
- To qualify for end-of-year badges, and attendance at camps and outings a minimum of 80% attendance per term is required.
- **Final numbers of attendees at the International Jamboree will be ranked depending on attendance.**

UNIFORM:

- Weekly Friday night meetings - full uniform is expected on Friday nights. Scout hat is compulsory. Sneakers are acceptable on Friday nights, however no sandals, no ballet flats are allowed. NO basketball uniforms are allowed at meetings. Please change into your uniform if going to or returning from basketball.
- For formal occasions 'Full uniform' will be requested. This means black school shoes are required, long trousers and hat are compulsory. No shorts. Anyone not in full uniform at such events will not be able to participate in the event.
- No make-up, no nail polish, no gum, no jewellery (with exception of plain stud earrings and a watch). No sunglasses are to be worn with the uniform.
- Long hair should be tied back into a pony tail.
- Please ensure all the badges are in the correct position. Refer to the uniform images in this booklet for correct badge placement. Please remove any earned badges from second-hand uniforms. The children should only be wearing badges they have earned themselves.

MOBILE PHONES / ELECTRONICS



No mobile phone usage is allowed under any circumstances. Mobile phones are not needed and not to be brought to meetings, outings, camps etc. All mobile phones will be collected at the beginning of the meeting. If for any legitimate reason, a phone call needs to be placed, scout members must approach the leader to make the phone call.

Any mobile phones or electronic devices being seen or used will be confiscated, and will only be returned to the parent.

RULES & EXPECTATIONS - CONSEQUENCES:

The primary focus on Scouts is that it must be a fun and rewarding experience for children to learn, grow, and build lifelong friendships. One of the areas of this growth is in terms of discipline and respect so that the group can work towards its desired outcomes on a week by week basis. The Rules and Expectations listed above allow this to occur, and if a child displays behaviour that is contrary to these expected Rules, thereby adversely affecting themselves, their peers, and the running of meetings, then the following disciplinary action will need to take place. **However, it is important to note that many of these indiscretions are not a factor at all during the year, however, for compliance purposes they are required to be listed.**

Type of Behaviour	Description	Consequences
Behavioural Indiscretions		
Verbal	Interrupting meetings by continually speaking out of place without the permission of a leader	The 3 Strikes policy will be followed leading to restrictions from activities during a meeting or several meetings
Foul Language	The use of foul language at any time during a scouting event	Immediate restrictions from activities during a meeting or several meetings, plus possible discussions with parents and suspension due to severity
Dis-Respect Towards Leader	Showing disrespectful behaviour towards the child's leader	The 3 Strikes policy will be followed leading to restrictions from activities during a meeting or several meetings
Bullying	Physical or verbal indiscretions towards peers	Immediate restrictions from activities during a meeting or several meetings, plus possible discussions with parents and suspension or expulsion due to severity
Social Media	Any negative comments, connotations, or actions on Social Media toward any Antranig or broader HMEM joey/cub/scout/venturer/leader	Immediate restrictions from activities during a meeting or several meetings, plus possible discussions with parents and suspension or expulsion due to severity
General Indiscretions		
Uniform	Not wearing the full uniform including poghgab, hat, or required pants/shorts/shoes	After ONE warning the scout's poghgab will be confiscated for a time to be determined by the groups Miyavor. This also means a suspension from any positions of authority (e.g. Sixer, troop leader, etc...) held by the scout and restrictions from certain activities over this time

Attendance	Attendance for at least 80% of meetings throughout the year – Absence of no more 2 meetings a term	Upon absence without medical or other serious grounds the scout may be restricted from activities due to the lessons they have missed. This can also affect badge eligibility, and attendance at outings and camps
Other Indiscretions		
Mobile Phones	Bringing a mobile phone to any meeting, outing, camp, or scout event	The mobile phone will be confiscated for the entire event and upon repeat infractions the phone will only be returned to the child's parent by the Miyavor
Vandalism	Vandalism of any property (including the venue) used during (including before and after) any meeting, outing, camp, or scout event	<p>The penalty for these Severe indiscretions are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An immediate meeting with parents; • Possible suspension or expulsion; & • Referral to the required authorities
Theft	Theft of any property belonging to another scout, leader, or the venue used during (including before and after) any meeting, outing, camp, or scout event	
Drugs and Alcohol	Bringing, consuming, offering any drug or alcoholic substance to any meeting, outing, camp, or scout event (including before and after)	

The reference to 'scout' above includes any Joey, Cub, Scout, or Venturer.

DURING MEETINGS:

THINGS TO BRING EACH WEEK

All members should have a 'Scout bag' which they bring with them each week.

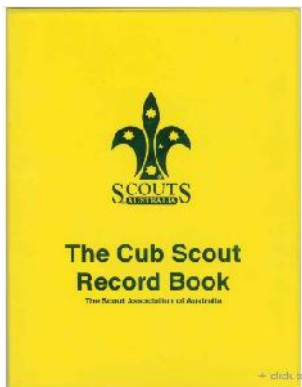
- ✓ Antranig Scouts bags can be purchased from the parents committee.
- ✓ Record Books – Cubs (yellow), Scouts (green), Venturer (purple)
- ✓ Pencil case with pencils/rubber/colouring pencils/glue/scissors
- ✓ Display Folder
- ✓ Water Bottle
- ✓ Please label everything!

COLLECTION EACH WEEK

Joeys & Cubs - bring \$1 each week for collection.

Scouts - \$10 will be collected at the beginning of each term, to cover the term.

Venturers – bring \$1 each week for collection.



RECORD BOOK

A Record Book is given to each child upon starting. It is Yellow for Cubs, Green for Scouts and Purple for Venturers. Any books that go missing and need to be replaced must be done so at the Parent's expense. These books cost \$10 each and can be purchased from the leaders, or from the Scout Shop website.

LEADERS

Group Leader – Masnajough khempabed

Y. Hagop Der Tateossian

Assistant Group Leader - Pokh Masnajough Khempabed

K. Maral Varjabedian

Joeys Leaders

- Miyavor – Y. Raffi Pailagian
- Khmpabed – K. Sevan Alexanian
- Khmpabed – K. Karoun Boghossian

Cub Scout Leaders

- Miyavor – Y. Raffi Pailagian
- Khmpabed – K. Hourie Demirjian
- Khmpabed – K. Taleen Kajakajian
- Khmpabed – K. Sonia Bedrosian
- Khmpabed - Y. Hovik Der Tateossian
- Khmpabed – K. Narine Akilian

Scouts Leaders

- Miyavor – Y. Raffi Nadjarian
- Khmpabed – Y. Antranig Der Tateossian
- Khmpabed – K. Lucy Banbekian
- Khmpabed – K. Seta Der Tateossian
- Khmpabed – Y. Apig Bedrosian

Venturers Leaders

- Miyavor – K. Julie Zilifian
- Khmpabed – K. Rojeeca Tchopourian
- Assistant Khmpabed – Y. Raffi Nadjarian

COMMUNICATION WITH LEADERS

Email is the primary method of communication between the Leaders, Group Support Committee and Parents. A weekly email is sent informing of upcoming events. Quite often meeting venues need to change, especially if the Armenian Cultural Centre (agoump) is unavailable. Therefore please ensure parents remain informed via these emails. If your contact details change, please ensure you advise your child's Miyavor khmpabed asap.

Communication is two-way. Leaders want to hear from parents about any concerns they may have, or any suggestions. Please ensure your child's leaders are aware of any medical, allergy, health, social or emotional concerns relating to your child.

The email address to contact the sectional Miyavors are as follows:

Position	Email Address
Joey & Cub Miyavor	joeyscubsantranig@gmail.com
Scout Miyavor	ariarenoushantranig@gmail.com
Venturer Miyavor	venturersantranig@gmail.com
Group or Assistant Group leader	groupantranig@gmail.com



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