

BEACONHILL SCOUT CAMPSITE

Camping & Training Ground of the Horsham Scout District

General Information

Location:

Address: Beacon Hill Scout Campsite, Tower Road, Colgate, West Sussex RH12 4SX
O/S Grid Ref: O/S Landranger Sheet 187 **TQ 225 333**

Turn off the A264 road at Faygate traffic island between Horsham and Crawley towards Colgate. The campsite is one mile on the right.

NOTE: The campsite does not have a landline phone. Mobile phone signal strength varies. Vodafone /EE have a strong signal throughout the site.

- **Description**

The site comprises 36 acres of unspoilt grass, heath and ancient woodland bounded by a small stream (Dobson's Gill) to the south west and a secondary road (Tower Road) along the north east side.

There are no public footpaths crossing the site and a private internal perimeter road provides direct access to many individual camping areas.

Wildlife is abundant and includes deer, foxes and many species of birds.

- **Camping Facilities**

Individual camping areas have been cleared within the woods.

Campers are expected to provide their own chemical toilets even though limited outside toilets are available for all adjacent to the Pavilion Hut.

Water stand-pipes are provided around the Field within a short distance from most camping areas.

Footpaths lead to the grassy open play area (the "Field"), "quiet area", and camp fire circle.

- **Covered shelter**

There is a covered shelter next to the storage containers which has electric lights. Switch is located in trolley storage container

- **Vehicle Parking and Vehicle Access to Campsite**

There is ample car parking available just within the site entrance (close to the Pavilion Hut). Vehicles may use (DRIVEN WITH EXTREME CARE) the perimeter road for initial delivery to camping individual sites and may use one of the several "lay-bys" off this road for short term parking but are expected to be returned to the main car park for longer-term parking. It is helpful if Group identification is displayed in the windscreen.

Please note; - THE GENERAL RULE IS THAT VEHICLES ARE NOT ALLOWED BEYOND THE CAR PARK OTHER THAN AS ABOVE.

The carpark floodlights are NOT on a timer and are controlled by the switch on the outside wall near to the side door of Gummys. The floodlight attached to Gummys just above the side door IS on a timer and will switch off automatically at a pre-set time.

Vehicles will ONLY be allowed in exceptional circumstances on sites or the main field with the specific approval of a member of the camp staff (see below). If permission is granted then vehicles must be removed immediately after unloading.

Trolleys are provided for the transport of heavy equipment from the car park/ perimeter road to sites.

- **Outside Lights**

Please ensure that the verandah lights and car-park floodlights are switched off prior to leaving the campsite . NONE OF THESE LIGHTS ARE ON A TIME SWITCH

Note: The floodlight attached to the side door of Gummys is on a time switch and will go on (and off) at a pre set time . Please do not adjust the timer.

- **Keys**

Keys to the site entrance gates;

Each Horsham Scout Group/Unit holds a key to the main gate lock which will also open the outside toilets. This key will NOT open the door to Gummys

The key for Gummys (when booked), main gate and outside toilet block should be collected from the Booking Secretary beforehand and returned immediately after the end of the camp.

- **Dress Code**

Members and Leaders are expected to arrive at and depart from the Campsite in recognisable Scout (or Guide) uniform.

- **Discipline**

Individual Section Leaders are responsible for the discipline of their own members using the campsite.

All persons using the campsite must obey instructions issued by the Camp Staff for their own and others' safety and security.

Pavilion Hut - “Gummys “

This is a substantial, centrally-heated brick building designed mainly for daytime use, incorporating a recently refurbished kitchen, mains water, flushing toilets and meeting hall.

Gas cooking and mains electricity are included in the fees. Stacking chairs and tables are provided for indoor use only.

The main hall may be used for planned single night sleepovers of Beaver Cubs and can accommodate up to 30 Cub Scouts / Scouts or others overnight. A separate Leaders' room is available.

Instructions for the hot water / central heating boiler are located on the side of the boiler in the kitchen.

The kitchen has, in addition to a large cooker, a fridge freezer, microwave and a kettle. Please do not turn off the fridge/freezer

There is a basic first aid kit located in the kitchen (but see note below under heading “Accidents”)

The key for unlocking the window shutters is located in the wall cupboard next to the front door.

Please note: There are no cooking utensils, crockery or cutlery.

Please leave the fridge freezer empty, clean, closed and switched **ON**
Groups are expected to leave the Hut in a clean condition, **particularly the kitchen.**

- **Wood burning stove in the main room**

Only wood or charcoal to be burnt in this stove.

The stove will get VERY HOT when lit so please take care when opening the doors - use the gloves provided.

Only Leaders / Over 18s to light or fuel the stove.

Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers must be told NOT TO TOUCH the stove or the guard rail.

Replace the guard rail after lighting/refuelling the stove

Please empty the cold ashes from the bottom of the stove before use and if possible after use - if the ashes are sufficiently cold.

And finally - please take care when using the stove.

Note :- Smoking is not allowed in Gummys.

- Gummys has got Central Heating radiators. The heating is controlled by a thermostat inside near the side door by the kitchen. Please leave the thermostat down to near zero when leaving

**It is a condition of reserving Gummys that upon vacating the premises the Leader in charge ensures that the kitchen surfaces, floor and oven and hob are clean, no food items are left and waste is taken away, the toilets/ wash basins are cleaned, the woodburning stove is emptied of ashes and the hall floor and verandah are swept.
Please leave Gummys in the clean state you would wish to find it !**

- **Availability**

An online booking facility is available to all Horsham Scout Groups and this should be used for all reservations. If in doubt please contact the Booking administrator

Note :

Beacon Hill Campsite is available on a pre-booked basis only for use by members of the Scouting and Guiding Movements for camping and programme / training activities

- **Using another Group's camping area**

Each Group has an allocated site.

It has always been acceptable and generally agreed that Leaders may wish to use another Groups site e.g. for camping, fire lighting etc.

However this is on the clear understanding that in such instances the Leaders concerned should contact the GSL/ Scouter in charge of the Group whose site they wish to use to obtain their agreement.

This protocol applies to single meetings / events or overnight camping

Please note this does not apply in such instances as a campsite wide game etc

If any Leader is not aware of the location of their allocated site and its "boundaries" then please refer to you GSL / Scouter in charge.

Note there is a map on the notice board outside Gummys which indicates the locations.

Care of Groups' camping Sites

All Leaders are reminded that it is their responsibility to set the boundaries for their members and explain that ALL sites are to be respected and are out of bounds for collecting wood etc.

Leaders should know what their members are doing and must inspect the sites they are using and impress upon their members that sites are left in a clean and tidy condition eg as they would expect to find a site when they arrive.

Any damage should be reported as soon as it is discovered and photographs a taken.

- **Nights Away / Activity Permissions**

It is the responsibility of Leaders in charge of groups using the campsite to comply with current Scout Association requirements as agreed with their District Commissioner and where applicable Girl Guiding UK requirements.

- **Accidents**

The location / address of Campsite is Beacon Hill Scout Campsite, Tower Road, Colgate, West Sussex RH12 4SX.

All accidents requiring referral to a doctor, emergency services or hospital must be reported to the Camp Staff as soon as possible (see contact details below).

The responsibility for subsequently reporting the accident in accordance with Scout Association / Girl Guiding UK requirements lies with the individual Section Leader of the group concerned.

It is a condition of usage of the campsite that Section leaders must have a first aid kit when on site. This is to comply with Scout Association / Girl Guiding UK requirements.

- **Fires**

Fires may only be lit on altars and other prepared fireplaces with concrete bases. No open fires should be left unattended and **must never be lit on bare ground**. Fallen wood is readily available for fuel collection from the wooded areas but no standing timber may be cut without permission from the Camp Staff.

- **Toilet Waste, Grease and Rubbish Disposal**

Chemical toilets must be emptied at the disposal point near the Pavilion Hut. All rubbish should be burned where possible and the remainder must be taken away. Greasy waste filtered and fatty remains must be taken away.

- **Fireworks, Firearms, Archery and Catapults**

Fireworks are **NOT** allowed on the campsite. The use of firearms and archery equipment other than under properly authorised Leader supervision is forbidden. Catapults are expressly forbidden.

- **Dogs and Wildlife**

No dogs, other than guide dogs, are permitted on site.

Birds, their nests and eggs are protected and must not be disturbed.
Flowers should not be picked and natural flora and fauna should be respected.
Do not cut or damage live trees

- **Noise**

Campers are expected to observe a “quiet rule” between 11pm and 7am.

- **Badges**

Beacon Hill Campsite badges are available for purchase from the Camp Staff.

- **Campsite Equipment :**

A selection of equipment (trolleys, hand tools, pioneering poles etc) is available from the campsite store upon request to the Camp Staff but only appropriately experienced Section Leaders will be permitted to borrow items in the interests of health and safety.

Section Leaders are responsible for returning equipment in a sound condition.

Axes and saws may only be used outside allotted camping areas with the prior permission of the Camp Staff.

Hazards

- **Overhead Electricity Cables**

High voltage overhead electricity cables run along the north east boundary adjacent to the private perimeter road. A tragic fatal accident occurred some years ago so **REMEMBER** Section Leaders must ensure no inappropriate activities take place near these cables or their supporting poles.

- **Disused Reservoir**

A disused reservoir is located **outside** the campsite boundary to the south west (Dobsons Gill) and Section Leaders are expected to ensure their no persons trespass into this area.

FIRE SAFETY PRECAUTIONS - see separate information sheet

Useful Contacts

- **Emergencies**

Crawley Hospital has a 24 hour NHS Walk in centre facility and is located at West Green, Crawley RH11 7DH, some 6 miles away. Tel: 01293-600300.

The nearest full accident and emergency hospital is East Surrey Hospital, Canada Avenue, Redhill, Surrey, RH1 5RH, Tel: 01737-768511

(Address of campsite is : Beacon Hill Scout Campsite, Tower Road, Colgate, West Sussex RH12 4SX

- **Booking Secretary / Administrator -**

Anthony Smith, 51 Keats Close, Horsham RH12 5PL

Tel No 01403 274662 / 07780836825

Email: campsitemanager@horshamscouts.com

Until further notice all key collection and return, booking forms and payments to above address

- **Camp Staff**

John Moynihan (Camp Staff) Tel: 01403-262154

Anthony Smith (Campsite Committee Chairman and Booking Secretary) 01403-274662 /Mob 07780836825

Email: chairman@horshamscouts.com

- **Tourist Information**

Tourist Information Centre (Horsham Museum) The Causeway Tel: 01403-211661

Arts Centre: Horsham Tel: 01403-268689

Sports Centre: Broadbridge Heath, nr Horsham Tel: 01403-211311

Swimming: The Pavilions, Hurst Rd Horsham RH12 2DF Tel: 01403-219200

Tesco supermarket - nearest is at Broadbridge Heath, just off A264

Waitrose Supermarket - in Horsham town centre

Sainsbury's supermarket - in Horsham town centre

FIRE SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

In GUMMYS (The Pavilion Hut):

Smoking is NOT permitted anywhere within Gummys.

Fireworks are NOT permitted to be kept or let off anywhere on the campsite.

Smoke alarms are provided in the corridor outside the Kitchen and inside the Bunk Room and should be tested by the Person in Charge prior to the use of the premises for overnight sleeping.

NO emergency lighting is provided and reliance must be placed on individuals' **electric torches** in the event of the failure of the lights due to a fire.

Fire extinguishers are provided in the Kitchen (CO2), together with a fire blanket, and in the main hall (water) and should only be used by competent people and at no risk to themselves or others.

The Person in Charge should familiarise themselves with the **fire safety instructions** (on the notice board), the location of the **fire exits** and inform those in their charge of the emergency fire drill and the Assembly Point.

Only competent people should be allowed in the **Kitchen** to carry out cooking and others should not be permitted in there during this operation. Only the gas cooker and microwave provided should be used and NO petrol or other imported sources of heating are permitted. Adequate ventilation should be ensured by opening doors and windows.

When **overnight camping** takes place in Gummy's the open fire must be extinguished, escape routes between equipment/bedding maintained, fire exits kept clear and the main double doors kept unlocked.

NO gas stoves or other forms of imported cooker or heater may be used within the **main hall**.

NO aerosols or other pressurised spray cans should be kept inside the **main hall**.

In the OPEN CAMPING AREAS:

Fires (including gas, petrol or other stoves) may only be lit on altars and other prepared fireplaces with concrete bases and should be supervised by competent persons. Open fires must NOT be left unattended and must never be lit on bare ground.

A **bucket of water** must be placed near the open fire and all **flammable liquids** and **gas bottles** must be stored in secure, well-ventilated areas when not in use.

Oil/gas **Stoves** and **lamps** must NOT be used in man-made fibre tents and should only be used inside canvas tents (including mess tents) under competent supervision.

Fireworks (including indoor types and sparklers) are NOT be let off anywhere on the Campsite.

The Person in Charge should familiarise themselves with the **fire safety instructions** on the notice boards outside Gummys and at the Field barrier.

Fire evacuation practice:

It is recommended that all groups conduct a fire practice - to familiarise themselves with the layout of the site, the position of the assembly point(s) and the position of all fire fighting equipment as soon as practicable after setting up tents and other equipment.