# BOLTON SOUTH with FARNWORTH DISTRICT SCOUTS
# 14th ANNUAL PIKE HIKE WEEKEND 2015

www.pikeviewhike.co.uk
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**Dear Scouter**

In May 2014, the 13th Pike View Hike was held with around 90 teams taking part in the competition – again a huge number of teams.

We're pleased to announce that our 14th annual event will be held over the weekend of 24th – 26th April 2015!

Due to the success of the event in previous years resulting in the event being oversubscribed, booking enquiries will be held for a maximum of 21 days pending receipt of full payment. Any unpaid bookings after this period will be forfeit; we hope that you can understand the reasons for this policy.

If you haven't joined in these events before, here's a brief description:

The three events are aimed at Cubs, Scouts, Explorers, Brownies, Guides and Rangers, and allow a young person to compete from the ages of 8 to 18. Each event consists of teams of 4 competitors, with a defined age range per event, and a combined maximum total age per team.

Three events are run as follows:

- Pip Hartley Memorial Trophy (ages 8-10 years); expected distance 14km
- Pike View Hike (10-14½ years) ; expected distance 20km
- Bibby's Farm Yomp (14-18 years) ; expected distance 25km.

Please see the rules for further information.

"Pike View Hike" and "Bibby's Farm Yomp" teams must camp on both Friday and Saturday evenings; "Pip Hartley Memorial" teams will camp only on Saturday evening - unless distances travelled would make this impractical. Pip Hartley Memorial teams will be advised of their time to arrive on site in the weeks prior to the event – normally around 08:00 – 08:30 in the morning.

A safety briefing for Team Leaders in the Pike View Hike and Bibby's Farm Yomp will take place on-site on Friday 24th April 2015 at 22:00, followed by a Adult Leader's safety briefing at 22:30.

The safety briefing for Pip Hartley Memorial teams will take place on-site on the Saturday morning.

As you know, we take safety very seriously, and we hope that these briefings will enhance your understanding of the safety precautions in place.

Every team has its kit checked over by Bolton Mountain Rescue Team before they are allowed to start, and teams then plot a preset route (unassisted) which is issued in the same format as a Scout Association Route Card. (Fact sheet FS120409)

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At various checkpoints en-route, the team will be asked to perform a range of challenges, in addition to completing the "ongoing incident" which begins as soon as they depart on their hike. The format of all events is the same, but the distances walked are longer, and the tasks performed are more taxing as they progress through the age ranges.

The 2015 events will take place over the weekend of the 24th – 26th April 2015 at Bibby's Farm Scout Campsite & Activity Centre.

The entry fee for the 2015 event is as follows - £65 per team for all teams where payment is received before the 2nd March 2015. We will accept entries up until the 30th March 2015 (subject to availability), however the price for teams where payment is received after 2nd March 2015 will be £75. The closing date for entries received this year will be again by strictly adhered to – quite simply because the organizers have been doing far too much running around, chasing entries before the events! The entry fee covers camping fees (for 4 competitors and one adult), event running costs, medals, prize money and emergency safety cover/vehicles.

All bookings this year will be handled electronically via our website, although we will need you to send payment via cheque to us in the post.

On receiving the correct fee, we will provide you with access to our website which will allow you to submit the details of your teams.

We will require you to submit details of all competitors via our website by the 30th March 2015. Due to the amount of work required this deadline must be adhered to!

For further details, visit our website at www.pikeviewhike.co.uk, or contact me via email or on the telephone number below.

We would be most grateful if you could circulate this information within your respective Scout/Guide communities. Also if you are able to assist with the running of checkpoints and the provision of minibuses and drivers, this would be greatly appreciated.

Finally, as the aim of these events is to allow as many young people as possible to compete, if you have any "spare" prospective competitors but you are unable to make up a team of 4, then via our website you'll be able to communicate directly with other leaders across the country in order to make up a mixed team – these teams have traditionally done quite well! This feature called the "Swop Shop" will once again be operated this year and will open around the 5th January 2015.

Yours in Scouting

Mike Marsh
Chairman, Pike View Hike
(a subcommittee of the Bolton South with Farnworth Scout District Executive)

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