

BOLTON SOUTH with FARNWORTH DISTRICT SCOUTS
15th ANNUAL PIKE HIKE WEEKEND 2016

www.pikeviewhike.co.uk
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Dear Scouter

In April 2015, the 14th Pike View Hike was held with around 80 teams taking part in the competition – again a huge number of teams.

We're pleased to announce that our 15th annual event will be held over the weekend of 15th – 17th April 2016!

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 up to nearly 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 13km
- Pike View Hike (10-14½ years); expected distance up to 18km
- Bibby's Farm Yomp (14-18 years); expected distance up to 27km; the maximum competitor age in this event is 17 years and 364 days.

For full details of the age restrictions on each event, please refer to the event 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 15th April 2016 at 22:00, followed by an 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 2016 events will take place over the weekend of the 15th – 17th April 2016 at Bibby's Farm Scout Campsite & Activity Centre.

The entry fee for the 2016 event is as follows - £65 per team for all teams where payment is received before the 22nd February 2016. We will accept entries up until the 21st March 2016 (subject to availability); however the price for teams where payment is received on or after the 22nd February 2016 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 21st March 2016. 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 11th January 2016.

Yours in Scouting

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