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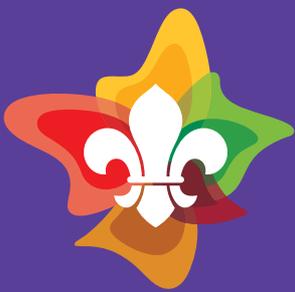
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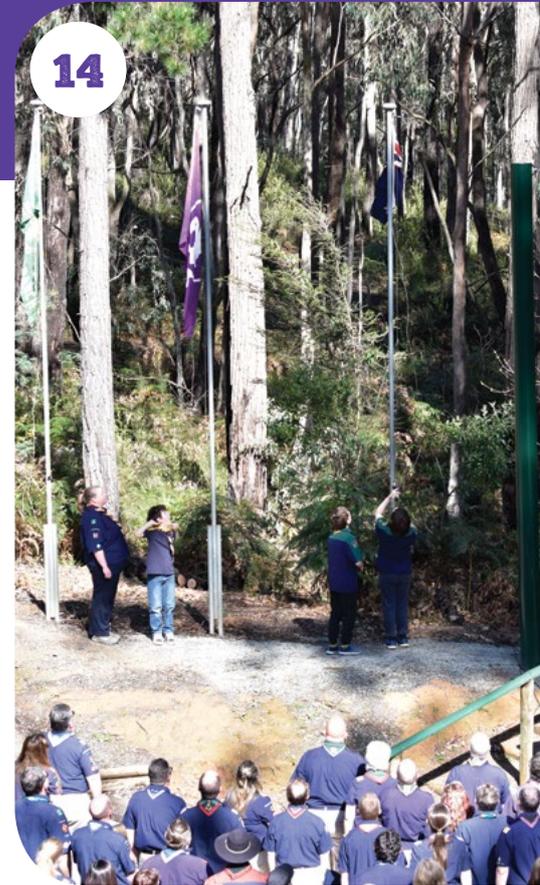
Scouts
AUSTRALIA



inside...



COVER:
Felix from 1st
Upwey having
a blast on the flying fox at
Gilwell Park Photo: Jacques Dell



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MUTANT CAMELS

OO AJ 2022

Today's older Cubs and younger Scouts will be eligible to attend AJ 2022 – the 26th Australian Jamboree, at Elmore in northern Victoria, in January 2022.

Eligibility criteria include being a Scout and not have turned 15 on January 3 2022.

They should be preparing and saving soon - like the Mutant Camel Patrol.

Their journey to AJ 2022 is now a serial in eight parts.

Episodes one and two are now viewable and shareable from www.facebook.com/AusJamboree2022

Cub and Scout Leaders: you can even download your own copy of each

episode to show your Pack or Troop from www.aj2022.com.au

Episode three will be released on November 15, and episode four on January 3 – which is exactly two years to the opening ceremony for AJ 2022. Then every six weeks till June 30 2020.



All trails lead to Warburton

By **BRAD MILES**

October 19 saw the launch of the Warburton Trails Adventure Centre.

This the newly renovated historic Rover Memorial Chalet and adjoining bunkhouse, set in an open grassy forest.

It is located pretty much in the centre of what is to become a network of international-standard mountain bike trails.

The back fence of the facility literally opens up onto the O'Shannassy Aqueduct Trail, while the Lilydale to Warburton Rail Trail (one of the most popular rail trails in Victoria) is not far away.

Chief Commissioner Brendan Watson, assisted by Cubs and Scouts from Seville, Woori Yallock and Yarra Junction, unveiled a plaque to officially open the facility.

Cr Jim Child outlined plans for the Warburton MTB Destination Project, a multi-million dollar project to commence in 2020. He enthused about the opportunities that our new Adventure Centre offers.

Bookings are open from all Sections via the Scouts Victoria website – go to Campsites.

Apart from bikes, it is also a great base for day or overnight activities, leadership courses, workshops and retreats, or just a relaxing weekend away, among the mountain forest.

Brad Miles is vice chair of Scouts Victoria.



Youth Leading!



Jazz, a Venturer from 1st Heatherdale tried abseiling last weekend at Big rock in the You Yangs. She learnt the skills and then assisted Anna, a Joey Scout from 1st Greenhills. A fantastic example of youth leading!



Venturers Emma from 1st Heatherdale and Hayley from 1st Torquay, along with State Commissioner - Diversity and Inclusion David 'Wombat' Lyons recently attended the 'Aboriginal Culture and Our Future' forum presented by Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place and the reconciliation groups in the eastern region of Melbourne. The forum looked at Aboriginal Cultural ideas and how they apply to challenges currently faced in the community.

A super hall for a Super Group



September 21 saw the opening of our latest super-hall, the 1st Point Cook Scout Hall, based in the grounds of Carranballac College.

The new hall will be used by the school during the day and by Scouts at night and week-ends.

It's the result of many years of work by the Group and District to secure a permanent home for the Group.

For 30 years they were based at the RAAF base, then at a local shared community centre.

But a Group with 162 youth members and seven Sections (two Cub Packs, two Scout Troops) needs something better.

And the Group is likely to continue to grow, especially with this wonderful new facility.

This is a major partnership by the State Government, the school, 1st Point Cook, and Scouts Victoria.

College Director Brendan O'Brien says the location of a Scout hall on a school site is 'the perfect partnership', and he is committed to Scouting, and excited about the shared future of his huge school and the growing Scout Group.





a few words from brendan

Brendan Watson OAM
Chief Commissioner
Scouts Victoria

It has been a busy couple of months, and, with the hot weather coming, outdoor Scouting is on the rise. Enjoy!



Warburton Trails Adventure Centre

I enjoyed inspecting the renovation of the former Rover Memorial Chalet at Warburton. Until the recent opening, the last time I was there was when I stayed a weekend there as a Venturer.



Over the years this site became little used, and it was probable that it would be sold to fund other facilities. Then BEC Vice Chair Brad Miles visited it, and learned about plans for bike trails in the area. With the Lilydale-Warburton Trail terminating in the valley below, and the O'Shannassy Aqueduct Trail passing the back gate, the new world-class bike trails will offer even more program for all ages.

A highlight of the opening day was meeting local youth members from Woori Yallock, Seville, and Yarra Junction. There is great Scouting happening in the Yarra Valley.

I was also interrogated by a group of Cubs about what exactly I do in Scouting. After a robust discussion, I'm no longer sure!

Congratulations to Brad Miles and his team for their outstanding work. It's not too late to get involved in this project. Like our latest Alpine Adventure Centre at Mt Baw Baw, its popularity will grow quickly as people realise the program opportunities all year round.

Program planner



The Scouts Victoria 2020 Program Planner was recently released through our weekly e-news Be Informed, which is delivered each Tuesday to all adults in Scouting: Leaders, Rovers, Adult Helpers, Office Bearers, Fellowship, etc.

I urge every youth member to make sure they use this tool when they sit down as a Mob Council, Pack Council, Troop Council, Unit Council, to plan your 2020 program.

It lists all our major events, school holidays, public holidays, and more.

There are Come and Try days for Cycling and other Adventurous Activities, and Patrol Activity Camps galore. (These are special camps for Scout Patrols at Gilwell, Clifford Park and Treetops. You don't need your own Leaders and the program changes for every camp.)

There is heaps more information about program on the Scouts Victoria website: a list of all adventurous activities, lots more events (check out all the Cycling events and workshops), plus

Term 1 For Adult, Youth, First Aid and Adventurous Activities courses visit www.scoutsvictoria.com.au/training
For Adventurous Activities events visit www.scoutsvictoria.com.au/activities

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1 - NYD - CBR Meet	2 - CBR	3 - CBR	4 - CBR	5 - CBR
Jan	6 - CBR	7 - CBR	8 - CBR	9 - CBR	10 - CBR	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	20	21	22 - Founder's Day	23	24 - Surfmoor	25 - SM	26 - Australia Day - SM
Feb	27 - S	28	29	30	31	1	2
	3	4	5	6	7	8 - Come & Try Cycling (Candlebark/Warrandyte)	9 - C&T Cycling (New Yongs)
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16 - Come & Try Cycling (Blondie)
	17	18	19	20	21 - Anything Goes	22 - AG	23 - AG
	24	25	26	27	28	29 - Patrol Activity Camp (Gilwell Park)	1 - Clean Up Australia Day - PAC (GP)
Mar	2	3	4	5	6 - Strathbroke Cup (Gippsland & Treetops) / Plenty Valley Riggin Gathering	7 - SC (G & TT) / Kangaroo / PVRG	8 - SC (G & TT) / K / PVRG
	9 - Labour Day - SC / PVRG	10	11	12	13	14 - Cub Capers (Clifford Park)	15 - CC (CP)
	16	17	18	19	20	21 - Harmony Day - PAC (Treetops) / Jamboree on Podium	22 - PAC (TT) / JOP
	23	24	25	26	27 - Term 1 Ends - Top Gear Scout	28 - TGS / PAC (GP)	29 - TGS / PAC (GP)
	30	31					

training courses for Leaders, Venturers, and people wanting to boost their first aid qualifications.

Make 2020 a truly exciting program.

Plan now, so that you can relax and enjoy when you return to Scouting after the holidays.

Christmas trees



Shortly I'll head to the Scouts Victoria website to check out all the Groups selling Christmas trees near me. Last year we had 88 Groups at 94 locations, clearing a total profit of more than \$750,000. This is valuable money to keep the cost of membership down, to buy camping gear, to keep the hall maintained, to subsidise major events like Kangaree and Cuboree, and sometimes to give fee relief to a couple of families who are doing it tough (and who often help the Group in other ways).

I choose to buy a Scout Christmas Tree because I want to support local Scouting.

Please encourage your family and friends to choose a Scout Christmas Tree - while they last.

Details at www.scoutsvictoria.com.au/christmastrees



1st Point Cook MCs Jori and Andi Mavrou.

1st Point Cook

The opening of the new 1st Point Cook Scout Hall was another recent highlight.

The new hall is no overnight success. Many people have worked for many years to realise this dream.

In particular, former District Commissioner and Group Leader Brian Geary was instrumental in driving the vision and progressing the work, planning and funding.

Sadly, Brian died shortly before Deputy Premier and Education Minister James Merlino launched the new hall in an event at Carranballac College in October 2017.

The school and Group have named the hall in Brian's honour, and it was fitting that many members of Brian's family were present to share a celebration that raised many emotions.

The opening was a great celebration, led by the youth members of the Group, with great support from their Leaders.

It was a joy to be there. Well done, 1st Point Cook. Best wishes to GL Mark Coates and all the team for your continued success.

Growing Groups



A running joke at the opening of 1st Point Cook's new hall was their Scouts' claim that their Group (160 youth members) is soon going to overtake 1st Caroline Springs (191 youth members). Meanwhile 1st Caroline Springs has their eye set on 1st-14th Brighton (225 youth members). And let's not forget Baden Powell Park Scout Group (180 youth members).

This friendly rivalry might inspire others.

These are thriving super-Groups where Scouts of all ages are enjoying great programs and outdoor adventure thanks to enthusiastic and generous Leaders. These Groups also enjoy great parent support because parents can see the benefits of well-run Scouting.

No single person can run a super-Group. It takes a team, Leaders and parents, sharing the work and sharing the fun.

But success breeds more success, and steering a large train is easier than building a small one.

Something to reflect on as we set our goals for 2020.

Happy holidays

Soon, most of us will celebrate Christmas - a time of peace and friendship and family. I wish you all a very happy Christmas.

Most of us will also enjoy some time off during Christmas, New Year, and January.

I hope you have a safe and happy holiday, and return recharged in 2020 for school, work, and another year of great Scouting!

Follow Brendan



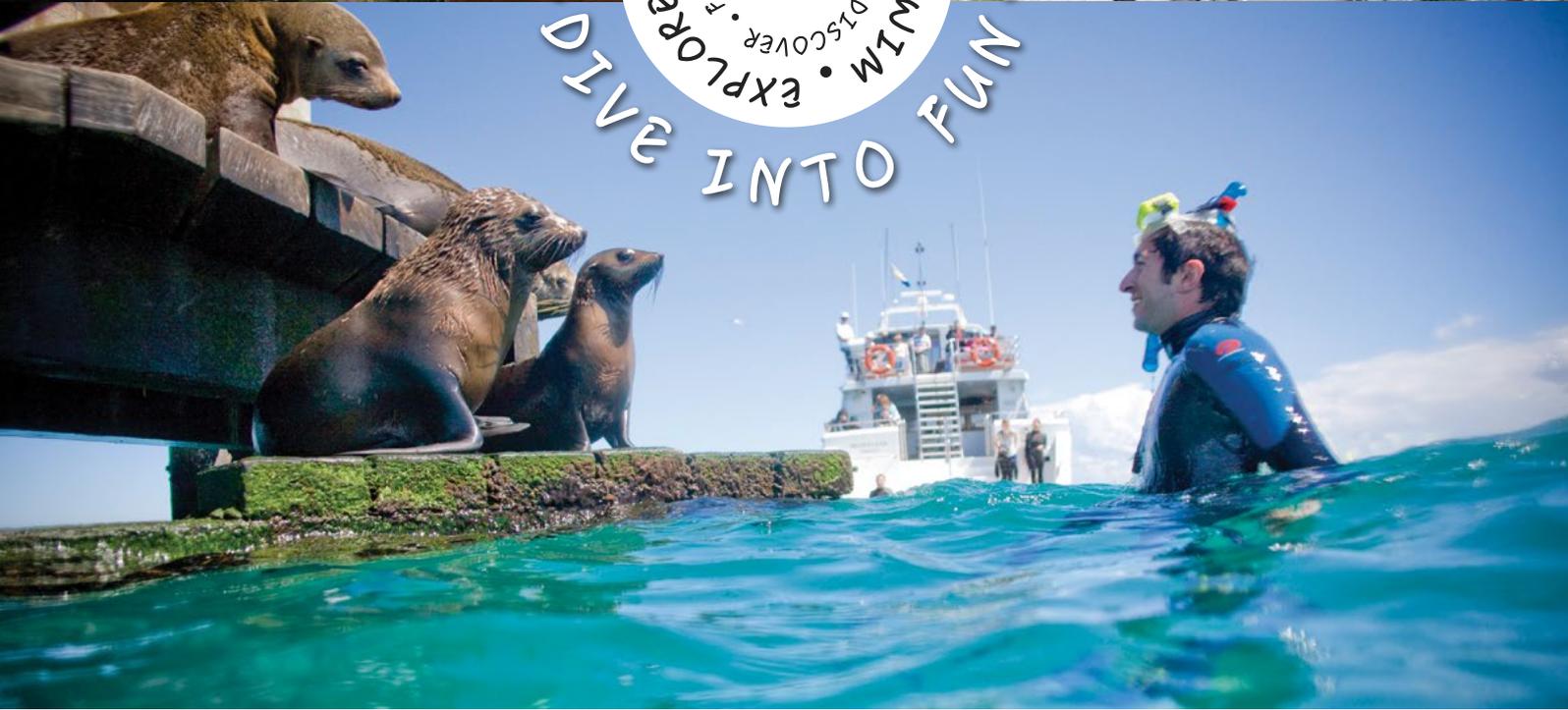
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Plan to make 2020 your best year yet!



By **MICHAEL THOMAS**

Your Mob, Pack, Troop, Unit or Crew is winding down towards the end of 2019.

Phew!!! It has been a great year with lots of activities planned by the youth members and supported by the adults.

But wait – there’s more. “What, more?” you say!!!

There is an old saying in Scouting that this week’s program is next week’s attendance.

Well, 2019’s 2020 program planning is 2020’s attendance, especially in Term 1.

Time for a 2020 planning night or week-end that gets our youth members using Plan>Do>Review> to look back on 2019’s program and plan an exciting 2020.

This planning can take a number of formats.

It can be a hall movie night sleepover for the Joey Mob Council (with pizza).

The Scout Troop Council might have a weekend away at someone’s holiday house (with pizza).

The Venturers might have Unit Council at a camp (with pizza), and the Rovers might program on a 4WD adventure (with pizza and...).

The Cubs might hold Pack Council at McDonald’s (perhaps not with pizza).

In short, this is an activity that involves lots of fun, rewards everyone for their work during 2019, and sets them up to plan an exciting program for 2020.



Make sure to use Plan>Do>Review> and have a brainstorming night with all members of your Mob, Pack, Troop, Unit or Crew before the planning meeting so that everyone’s thoughts are part of the process.

Also use resources such as the 2020 Scouts Victoria Program Planner to make sure you have considered everything that your fellow youth members would like to do.

When the draft 2020 program is complete stand back and look to see if there is a good range of activities across all the Challenge Areas.

Great programming is not hard.

Planning your 2020 program now keeps the momentum going over the holiday period and ensures all your Scouting mates come back in 2020.

Michael Thomas is Assistant Chief Commissioner – Program.

Two resources to help you plan:

Scouts Victoria 2020 Program Planner

This is a printable planner for Section planning meetings. It will be released through our weekly e-news ‘Be Informed’ in November.

Scouts Victoria 2020 website

The program in the planner is expanded and continually updated on the website at <https://scoutsvictoria.com.au/activities-events/events/>



Centenary of the Wood

Meet some Wood Badge Leaders

Our adult volunteers complete their Advanced Leader Training and earn the Wood Badge so they can deliver the best possible programs and care for our young people. Along the way they learn skills of benefit to life outside Scouting, great adventures, and develop lifelong friendships.

We'll have more in the next issue.

Ada Wilkinson
OAM, Honorary
Commissioner

At 98, Ada is our longest serving Wood Badged Leader. She's had a lifetime in Cubs and Leader Training. "Being a



Leader in Scouting has made me a better person in many ways; more tolerant and understanding – my children would vouch for that, I'm sure."

A favourite memory is getting up at night at a District Cub Camp at a country campsite to be confronted by a steer tangled up in the guy ropes of a tent after wandering in from nearby fields. "I was terrified, but a small hand was placed in mine and a small voice said: 'Don't worry, Raksha. I'm here.'"

If she wasn't volunteering in Scouting: "No Scouting friends, less travel ... I'd be a very boring person!"

Chris Logan, Joey
Scout Leader - 1st
City of Camberwell

... was late to the party, joining as an adult. He's done 12 years as a Cub Leader, five Cuborees, 15 years of Camberwell Showtime (currently Personnel Director), and is looking forward to his first Kangaroo.



"Scouting was key in developing my inter and intrapersonal skills, resilience, and was an absolute slam dunk in setting me up for a successful career in education. That whole learning by doing thing is inspired. Also, running a Cub Pack of 32 was the perfect training to help a young, naive retail worker survive the weekend before Christmas."

A favourite memory is watching the final-night performance of Camberwell Showtime and hearing the emotion in the cast's voices as Scarves of Blue is sung for the last time.

Says Chris: "The most worthwhile thing is to try to put happiness into the lives of others.' Yep, I just quoted BP. #scoutnerd. If I wasn't volunteering I would be on top of my washing."

Lisa Picking, State
Commissioner -
International

My Scouting life is B-P award-ee, Venturer Leader, volunteer at Kandersteg International Scout Centre (KISC), State Commissioner - International, LoA Wood Badge, Contingent Leader on many overseas trips.

I've learned through Scouting that no matter where we come from - language, background, lifestyle or beliefs - we have more in common than we have differences. And some of those differences are worth understanding, celebrating and cherishing.

My favourite memory is my year living in the Swiss Alps in a little farming village, my home sweet home away from home - KISC!

If I wasn't in Scouting I wouldn't travel as much or know as many wonderful people such as my partner and my closest friends. But I would be all over what's trending on Netflix.



Peter Rutley OAM,
State Commissioner
- Campsites

Scouting has given me many opportunities and benefits, and friends in all facets of life including many young people. The personal growth allows me to be a better person, to be tolerant and understand other people's situations better.



My favourite memories include assisting youth members at Jamborees and Cuborees with welfare issues, and being able to assist new Leaders on training courses.

If I wasn't in Scouting I guess I would be more involved with my Vintage Car Clubs and other voluntary organisations. I just like helping people and making a difference to our community!

Iman Habboucheh,
Assistant Group
Leader - 9th
Brunswick

I was appointed GL for AIA in late 2015, but when AIA Coburg Cubs closed I joined 9th Brunswick.



The best thing that I have learned through Scouting is that young people are very capable of doing things on their own. I would probably NOT consider myself as a helicopter parent, more of a hot air balloon. I have learned through Scouting that given the opportunity, young people like Cubs and Scouts are independent, resourceful, helpful and kind ... just what our community needs.

My favourite memory of Scouting is being invested on the steps of Parliament by Brendan Watson, with the Minister for Youth and other special guests present. It was a humbling experience to see all the Scouting family embrace and make me feel so welcomed. If I wasn't doing Scouting, I would probably more than likely be sitting in front of the TV, in between the many demands of family life.

Badge

David 'Wombat' Lyons, State Commissioner - Diversity and Inclusion

From an eight year old at 10th Glenroy (now 1st Oak Park), to Rover, Scout Leader, District Team in Moonee Valley and then Kariwara. When work required a move to Gippsland, I continued as a Scout Leader, then Rover Advisor.



I have attended many Ventures, Moots and Jamborees, been in the cast and crew of Melbourne Gang Show and Camberwell Showtime. I have the Scout, Rover and LoA Wood Badges. One day I will do the Joey one just for fun.

I have fantastic friendships (and excuses for train rides) across the state thanks to Scouting. I have learnt so much much from my formal training (Wood Badge), but also the additional training (things like Autism, ADHD and Depression Awareness courses) and the informal training of Leader meetings, that I apply both to my Scouting and work life.

Favourite memories include learning to plant, care for and shape a bonsai plant as a Cub. As a Scout I gave my Troop a real life example of first aid when I fainted listening to a paramedic describe blood and gore on an ambulance station visit. When my dad passed away, it was my Venturer peers at the Unit who kept life normal and fun.

Living in a small town, I am on a range of local committees and projects. Everyone in the town wears a few hats. Happily Scouting is one of my hats.



By JAN KERR and KAREN WALKER

In September, 26 Victorian Leaders descended upon Gilwell Park, UK to undertake an All Sections Advanced training course and Friendship Tour. Four Trainers led 18 leaders through their advanced training. Another four previously Wood Badged leaders shared the festivities and activities.

The course had Leaders from every Section from Joeys to Leader of Adults. Content covered programming, leadership, personal development, people management, giving and receiving feedback, problem solving, project management, youth retention and succession planning.

The opening parade on Sunday September 1 took place under the same oak tree as the original training course 100 years before. As well as undertaking training requirements, participants took the opportunity to participate in a night hike, evening wide games and back-woods cooking.

After the two days of training we drove from Gilwell to the Port of Poole where we caught a ferry to Brownsea Island. We all spent the day exploring the island and were lucky enough to have close encounters with the more rare red squirrel.

To be in the place where the first experimental camp took place and taking in the history of both the island and scouting was very moving.

At the completion of the course Leaders were presented with their Gilwell Scarf and wood beads made of English Oak, by the Hon. Michael Baden-Powell. Then we met around the campfire and ashes of our own campfires at Gilwell Park Victoria, were scattered, as we enjoyed skits and campfire songs.

The group then travelled to Switzerland to stay at the International Scout Centre, Kandersteg. Only 13 years after the first scout camp on Brownsea Island, the first international event took place: the first World Scout Jamboree. In 1923 Kandersteg International Scout Centre was founded, a place where this "Jamboree" feeling happens.

KISC is a very spiritual place set amongst the grandeur of the Bernese Alps. It was a fitting place for our group to re-affirm our Scout Promise.

Jan Kerr is General Secretary of Scouts Victoria, and Karen Walker is Assistant Cub Scout Leader, 1st Upwey.



Celebrating Neurodiversity in Scouting

Being in Scouting can be life changing for any child, especially one with especially one with a disability or additional needs. The following stories tell how five members (and their families) found their place in Scouts and the successes (and challenges) they experienced.

Scouting has a long history of including young people on the Autism spectrum and we are always working to increase awareness among our members, often through communication and training. Many of our volunteers start their journey in Scouts without an understanding of Autism, so to help that journey, Scouts Victoria has partnered with key agencies like Statewide Autistic Services Inc

Chris

Chris joined Cubs in 2008 aged eight years and five months. He was diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome just over a year later. Since then he has continued on in Scouting and joined Rovers in 2017.

Chris' time in Scouting hasn't been challenge free. They encountered a Leader who didn't understand Asperger's and his needs and wasn't willing to. He was even denied his Queen's Scout award. However, determination prevailed and he was eventually awarded it.

Regardless of this, Chris' family cannot speak highly enough of what Scouting has done for their son. The confidence it has encouraged is unbelievable, allowing him to feel comfortable enough to run his Group's recent ARAP night with a fellow Rover. He also currently holds down a job

(SASI) to run training additional to our eLearning and Wood Badge program. In 2019, four half day courses were run, with access for our Regional Scouting communities a priority. The plans for 2020 are still in development, but we are looking at adding an additional element to our training. Extending the training from a half day, to a full day and giving participants more opportunities to try their skills. Keep an eye on our social media and for Leaders, the weekly 'Be Informed' for updates. We're also arranging presentations in other areas that link to working with young people on the Autism spectrum, such as sessions on ADHD or sensory spaces, so keep an eye out for these in the new year as well.

as a stable hand and is looking to become an Ambulance Community Officer with Ambulance Victoria. Both they see as a testament to the skills Scouting has given Chris.

Chris has earned a variety of certificates including First Aid and Open Water Diving, and has been recognised in his community numerous times including receiving the Australian Government Volunteer Award. He was nominated for this by the family's local newsagent.

Chris' success in Scouting has encouraged his family to join in too. His sister is currently half way through her badge work for the Queen's Scout award, his mother has been an Adult Helper and Committee member for 11 years and his father has been a Scout Leader for almost six years.

Since joining Rovers, Chris has completed 177 hours service and we can't wait to see what he will achieve next!



Brandon

Everyone needs somewhere they can belong, and when you have the social barriers that come with autism this can be difficult. When Brandon's family saw a local Scout Group running a barbecue at the local market they wondered if Scouting could become Brandon's place to belong. Years later, they tell us the answer was Yes!

Brandon struggled at school but has thrived at Scouts where the skills were practical and, while busying himself with badge work and going on camps, he developed the skills to connect with others.

Scouting has played a big part in shaping the Brandon his family know today. From sitting on the sidelines at Joeys, to become the first recipient of the Grey Wolf award in his Group in more than three years, Scouting has allowed him to build character and has supported him through personal growth.

Seeing Brandon be nurtured and guided by dedicated Leaders encouraged his mother, Angela, to make the decision to become a Leader herself. She is now a very proud Mum, running a Joey Mob and helping other children to get as much out of Scouting as her son has. To quote Angela "It seems Scouting has given us both a place to truly belong!"

Tips for making your Group a safe space for members on the Autism Spectrum (and a great for all youth too).



The Adams Family

Sue and Russell met through Scouting when they were both Rovers and continued on as Leaders so it wasn't a question that their three sons would join Joeys once they were old enough. The boys had lots of fun and adventure but over time, all three receiving diagnoses on the Autism spectrum. This didn't stop them from enjoying everything Scouting had to offer, with all three continuing through into Rovers.

The journey each son had however was different. They all found Joeys, for the

most part, complication free, made easier by the fact their mother was there as a Leader and could "interpret the weird bits". One son, who had a carer at Cubs and Scouts, saw only a few hiccups. Venturers posed the biggest challenge. Finding a good fit can be tricky, and meant a couple of visits at different Units and some travelling. Two of the boys were able to find their place at the local Rover Crew but one needed more support. The local Crew tried to help but were honest enough to say they couldn't provide the support necessary for this to be his place. He has now found a home with special needs Group, Manningham Tende Beck. Turns out it was home for his Mum too who joined as a Leader.

Two of the boys achieved their Queen's Scout awards with the help and support of their Leaders and family. Unfortunately the other struggled with public presentations, an integral part of the award. The family recommend anyone else in that situation speak up early. You can then arrange alternatives to any areas that are a problem so everyone can achieve! The work he did put in, however, can be used for the Duke of



Edinburgh Award so he is now looking to earn this.

The family's Scouting adventure now continues. They Scout as a family and as individuals. They truly feel Scouting (like life) is about lifting each other up so everyone can experience success and joy!

The family's Scouting adventure now continues. They Scout as a family and as individuals. They truly feel Scouting (like life) is about lifting each other up so everyone can experience success and joy!



Tips for making your Group a safe space for members on the Autism Spectrum (and everyone else too).

Clear and simple communication

- Ensure you have their attention before you speak e.g. use their name "Robert, the next activity will start in five minutes".
- Try to not complicate instructions with too many words.
- Reduce open ended questions, clarify and reflect back.
- Be direct, clear and literal – say what you mean and avoid sarcasm or sayings.
- Warn of any upcoming changes in routine e.g email to families with this week's plans.
- Try not to shout – young people may not understand why people are shouting and can find it distressing regardless of having Autism or not.
- Remember some ASD and ADD/ADHD young people are hypersensitive to noise.
- Be visual – get creative and use pictures, symbols and actions to highlight communication.
- Practical demonstrations will appeal more to all your Scouts.

Allow time, provide structure, routine and predictability

- Give your Scouts time to process information and instructions.
- Be patient.
- Visual calendars and programs for the nights help.
- Explain what is happening now and next.
- Have a buddy who can give extra guidance and reassurance.
- Be prepared and plan ahead .

Give clear rules and expectations

- Help and remind the young person what is expected of them and the rules they need to follow. Having these presented visually helps.
- Work with the family to know what social goals they might be working on at home or school and seeing where Scouting can link into these.
- Delegate specific tasks to the young person e.g. "Camel Patrol – you're on dinner clean up. Robert, you will use the tea towel and dry the washing up".
- Be alert for anxiety and warning signs of meltdowns – try de-escalation before meltdowns occur.

- Work with families to know the triggers for your members.
- Things will go wrong, everyone stuff up. Have restorative conversations, remind what you expect next time. Review the rules as needed.
- Reward appropriate behaviour.
- Don't take poor behaviour personally.
- Punishments will not always create learning, and especially if there is any time gap between the issue and the punishment. Consequences of the action can be enough. E.g. After a tent full of mozzies, you'll never forget the importance of zipping up the fly!

Consider the environment

- Warn Scouts in advance of environments that might be a trigger e.g: a Scout with hypersensitivity to noise might need warning in advance of the Joey visit or Scouts who don't cope in crowds might need a plan for the visit to the local show e.g. "next week Robert, we are going to a very busy place, but you can walk by my side the whole time".
- Consider tools like a time out card or time out space.



Celebrating our Adult Volunteers



Chief Commissioner of Australia Phil Harrison, Brendan Watson and Jon Willis



Steven German, GL at Lakeside Pakenham was awarded the Special Service Award.

Friends and family filled the Campfire Circle at Gilwell Park on Sunday September 15 to celebrate Victoria's annual Adult Recognition Award presentation.

Chief Commissioner of Australia Phil Harrison flew in from north Queensland to present the awards.

There were four recipients of the Silver Kangaroo: Rob Evans, Venturer Leader at 1st Hawthorn; Ian Herron, District Leader - Development in Mornington Peninsula District; Darrell Lewis, State Leader - Scout Events; and Chief Commissioner Brendan Watson OAM.



Kieron Younger ACSL and Vicki Hoiles TASL from 2nd/3rd Bayswater were both awarded the Special Service Award.



Rachel Lee, CSL at 1st Eaglemont was awarded the Meritorious Service Award.

Recipients of the top lay award, the National President's Award, were: Graeme Legge, DPC member, Cardinia District; George Pagonis, Treasurer, Mulgrave Scout Group; Sandra Pretty, ASF - Treetops Campsite; Honorary Commissioner Richard Simpson; Heather Stringer, DPC member, Moonee Valley District; Helen Wells, ASF - Bayside; and Barbara West, Treasurer, Macedon Ranges District.



Simon Marks, Bob Taylor and Barb Allford.



Special Service awardees.



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Saturday February 22

Celebrating Lord Robert
Baden-Powell's 162nd Birthday

Details and Bookings will be available in
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Scouts
VICTORIA

Christmas
Appeal



Schools and Scouting

By **BOB TAYLOR**

Scouting's adventurous activity program, for ages 5-25, complements the Victorian school curriculum.

When youth achieve our Peak Awards - the Joey Promise Challenge, the Cub's Grey Wolf, the Australian Scout Medallion and the Venturer's Queen's Scout Award - the Chief Commissioner writes to inform the youth member's School Principal.

In this letter the Chief Commissioner outlines the initiative, challenge, skill, team work, self discipline and leadership that the member has applied to attain the award and asks that this be communicated at assemblies and newsletters as this achievement supports the aims of every school's educational program.

Apart from recognition for the member who has gained a peak award, this helps to grow our membership and promote our role in the community.

Victoria has more than 2600 primary, secondary, combined P-12 and special schools in the Government, Catholic and Independent systems. Scouts Victoria has designated almost all of the above schools in proximity to one of our 375 active Groups as an Assigned Schools to one Group to enable that Group to build new ties, or strengthen ties where there is already a current flow of youth members.

The aim is that the Group Leader and Group Support Committee cement relations between their Assigned Feeder School Principals and the Group so that we can reinforce how our youth program and its achievements complement the citizenship aims and objectives of all Victorian schools.

Most schools have at least one member in Scouting and most schools feed a number of Groups as well the Assigned Group. The Group Leader is responsible to build up good relations with the Assigned School communities and their Principals on behalf of Scouts Victoria.

The largest Scout membership in a Victorian school is at the P-12 Beaconhills College's two campus at Berwick and Pakenham with a combined 94 members from Joeyes through to Rovers feeding 18 Groups in the Casey Cardinia growth corridor.

The largest Scout membership in a single campus school is at Hazel Glen P-12 College in the outer northern suburbs with 72 members. Scouts

Victoria has constructed a Scout joint use facility on its site in conjunction with the Victorian Education Department. It caters for youth in the expanding new housing estates in the Plenty growth corridor with 42 of the 72 members attending the Hazel Glen Group, 22 the nearby 1st Doreen Group and six members at five other local Groups.

The largest Scout memberships in primary schools are in suburbs in the lower Yarra. Doncaster Gardens Primary has 62 members, mainly feeding 1st & 3rd Doncaster East, and six other Groups, while 60 members are at Banyule Primary feeding the Viewbank and Rosanna Groups plus six other surrounding Groups.

The greatest secondary school Scout membership is at nearby Viewbank



1st Mansfield Scout Group at Mansfield Primary School

College with 55 members mainly feeding Viewbank and Rosanna Groups plus 11 other surrounding Groups.

This shows the importance of every Group Leader - in conjunction with parents - annually updating their child's school on the database each February so the Chief Commissioner's letter always goes to the appropriate school Principal to be promoted in its community.

Bob Taylor AM is Immediate Past Chief Commissioner, Scouts Victoria.

Our top 20 Scouting schools at August 2019

School	Sections	Total
Hazel Glen College	Cub Scout - 18, Joey Scout - 11, Scout - 22, Venturer - 21	72
Doncaster Gardens Primary School	Cub Scout - 32, Joey Scout - 16, Scout - 14	62
Banyule Primary School	Cub Scout - 34, Joey Scout - 12, Scout - 14	60
Viewbank College	Scout - 31, Venturer - 23, Youth Helper - 1	55
Beaconhills College - Berwick	Cub Scout - 11, Joey Scout - 1, Rover - 1, Scout - 31, Venturer - 7	51
Apollo Bay P-12 College	Cub Scout - 19, Scout - 21, Venturer - 8	48
Mckinnon Secondary College	Scout - 33, Venturer - 15	48
Catholic Regional College - Sydenham	Rover - 3, Venturer - 44	47
Scotch College - Senior School	Scout - 32, Venturer - 15	47
New Gisborne Primary School	Cub Scout - 28, Joey Scout - 14, Scout - 5	47
Mount View Primary School	Cub Scout - 19, Joey Scout - 2, Scout - 25	46
Eltham High School	Rover - 1, Scout - 23, Venturer - 19	43
Kew High School	Joey Scout - 1, Scout - 23, Venturer - 19	43
Beaconhills College - Pakenham	Cub Scout - 15, Joey Scout - 1, Rover - 2, Scout - 21, Venturer - 4	43
Vermont Secondary College	Rover - 1, Scout - 27, Venturer - 14	42
Braemar College	Cub Scout - 1, Rover - 2, Scout - 21, Venturer - 18	42
Montmorency South Primary School	Cub Scout - 26, Joey Scout - 3, Scout - 12	41
Box Hill High School	Rover - 2, Scout - 21, Venturer - 17	40
Hampton Primary School	Cub Scout - 20, Joey Scout - 6, Scout - 13	39

CUB SCOUTS AND JOEY SCOUTS!

ARE YOU READY FOR YOUR
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CUB SCOUTS!

THE NEXT CUBOREE IS
SEP 28 - OCT 2 2020

APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN!

Cuboree - a rite of passage for generations of Cub Scouts. Five days camping with 3600 other Cubs. Days of action, nights of entertainment, caring for themselves, camping with friends from their own Pack and best of all, making new friends.

Just five days - but they come home a year older.



KANGAREE 2020
BEYOND
ALL LIMITS!

JOEY SCOUTS!

THE NEXT KANGAREE
IS MARCH 7-9 2020

APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN!

Kangaree is a life-changing adventure for our youngest Scouts. More than 1000 Joeys will bus from all over Victoria for two days and nights of action, entertainment, fun, and new friends. Supported by 500 Leaders, parent helpers, Rovers and Venturers.

A weekend of memories to last a lifetime!

Run for Sanjiwani



Pamela Lambert, a Venturer Leader at 1st Ferny Creek interviewed her Assistant Group Leader Louise Edwards, about her dream to run a marathon in all seven continents.

Ferny Creek Assistant Group Leader, Louise Edwards, has been a Leader at Ferny Creek since 2012. She advocates that Scouting builds confidence, self-esteem, integrity and resilience, believing that outdoor adventures help develop these life skills.

Louise sets an example for our youth by running marathons. Her dream, since 1998 was to run a marathon on all seven continents - North America, South America, Europe, Africa, Asia, Australia, and finally Antarctica.

In 2012 Louise competed in the world's highest race - the Tenzing-Hilary

Marathon which starts at Everest Base Camp whilst raising funds for Sanjiwani Public Health Mission (SPHMN) in the Annapurna region. Louise is about to embark on her seventh marathon - Antarctica later this year. Antarctica is the most challenging marathon due to the extreme cold conditions. She needs to carefully analyse her risk assessment for this challenge asking herself, "What training should I do, what clothing will I run in and how do I stop my feet from freezing?"

Run for Sanjiwani 2019 - Antarctic Ice Marathon

On December 13 2019, at 80 degrees south, a few hundred miles from the South Pole, Louise will be running across the last frontier in mainland Antarctica, competing in the world's southernmost

race 'The Antarctic Ice Marathon'. She is again raising funds to support the Sanjiwani medical clinic and in turn 6000 Nepalese people living in the local community who without this medical outpost will walk for days to get much needed treatment.



Louise talks about villagers in Nepal facing everyday challenges brought upon by the remoteness and harshness of their Nepalese environment. Sanjiwani Clinic provides medical and dental treatment for the community who would otherwise be forced to travel long distances, often days, to obtain basic health and medical services. Louise indicated that the clinic relies totally on donations and can operate on \$20,000 a year which is nothing by Australian standards.

These funds, managed by Sanjiwani Australia - a registered Australian charity, are used to employ locally trained medical staff to provide a much-needed health service. In addition the clinic operates the only laboratory in the district and run a number of educational health programs to improve community health for families and babies.

As a community service, Scout Groups may like to help Louise support this vital service to continue. How about working with your Scout Group to support Louise and find a unique way to raise funds to help people less fortunate than yourself in Nepal?

When Louise runs the 42.2kms of the Antarctic Ice Marathon there will be no cheering crowds or penguins (it's too far south) to support her but she will have the love and support from the 6000 strong community in Nepal and hopefully our Scouting community in Victoria

For donations contact: Louise Edwards via louisejaneedwards@bigpond.com

Or donate at www.givenow.com.au/sanjiwaniicemarathon

Pamela Lambert is a Venturer Leader at 1st Ferny Creek.



Louise at the Sanjiwani Clinic in Ghandruk, Nepal.



Louise participating in the Tenzing-Hilary Marathon in Nepal.

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Top Gear Venture



By **TOM MADDISON**

The 3rd Annual Top Gear Venturer, held at Mafeking Rover Park, has turned out to be one of our largest CAMS Junior Development programs yet!

September 19-21 saw 130 Venturers celebrate the first weekend of school holidays by participating in car control, motorkhana tests, emergency braking and more, along with specialist workshops hosted by the Victorian Scout 4x4 team, police Scouters, RACV and Bennett Motors.

The Venturers had a ball driving in both the wet and dry conditions on Saturday (maybe more in the wet?!) and with completing Sunday's 14 timed tests.

The fastest overall time went to Joshua from 1st Westmead Venturer Unit in NSW.

Special mention to the Venturers and Leaders who made the long trip down from NSW for the weekend and made it back in time for school the following Monday!

The goal of this event is to

teach Venturers how to handle a vehicle in tricky situations, to ultimately reduce road casualties.

But an added bonus is teaching them vehicle respect, how to prolong the life of a vehicle with basic maintenance and how to respect the environment while having fun.

Working closely with Mafeking Rover Park, Top Gear aims to plant about 25 trees to capture the amount of carbon dioxide produced from driving 2200 kms!

A huge thank you to all the Leaders, Rovers, supporters and sponsors - the event would not have been possible without all your support!

We hope to see you all back for the next Top Gear Venturer 2020 on September 18-20 2020.

Tom Maddison is State Leader, Top Gear.

Photos: Phill Stevens, Rob Colgrave, Collette Lark and Monica Wilmott.



Are you a Scout and wish to join in next time?
Top Gear Scout 2020 is March 27-29 2020. Registrations open on November 1 2019.
See www.TopGearScout.com for more information.

A Visit to Canberra Air Scouts



By **BEN BOLTON**

My name is Ben and I am a Cub Scout at 1st Bendigo Scout Group. My family took a trip to Canberra during the recent school holidays and as the ACT school holidays started a week later than the Victorian holidays, I took the opportunity to join a Canberra Scout Group for a night.

Looking at a map of all the Scout Groups in Canberra, we discovered there was an Air Scout Group that happened to meet on one of the nights I was going to be in Canberra. My Dad got in touch with their Leader, Kim (Bagheera), who was happy for me to come along and to top it off, the night of my visit they were meeting at the Canberra Airport. I was very excited!

On the night of the meeting, I was feeling a bit nervous. Bagheera introduced me to a boy called Thomas who became my friend for the tour. He was really nice and it turned out we had lots of things in common. We both play tennis, collect coins and love going to Cubs.

Before the tour began we went to the ground control kitchen and had birthday cake to celebrate a few of the Scout members who had had birthdays that week. We also found out what we were going to do that night and were given high-vis vests to wear. Didn't I choose a good night to attend!

The first thing we did on the tour was go through security. We had to take off our jackets and walk through a metal detector.

After security, we saw a RAAF plane which was really cool.

We then saw the baggage compartment where the airport takes the baggage in and out of planes. There was a red wire around the conveyer belt and if anything touched it, the conveyer belt stopped and the staff had to move the luggage by hand. We were told to definitely not touch the red wire.

We went outside to see the plane stations where they brought the people into the planes.

We went to the repairs compartment, got to go inside the planes and even got to see where they keep the air conditioning and the cockpit.

Last but not least, we got back to our parents and had some homemade rocky road.

The whole thing was a really good experience and I even made some new friends. A big thanks to the Air Scouts Canberra for allowing me to join the Group for the night and for making me feel so welcome. I hope they might come to Bendigo and visit me sometime too.

Ben Bolton is a Cub from 1st Bendigo Scout Group



Taking Joeys camping!



By **TROY KENWARD**

By now, I am sure you have heard that Joey Scouts with appropriately trained Leaders can go camping. So, what would a Joey Scout Camp look like? Where could they go? What could they do on their camp?

Planning for our camp started a long way out. We discussed venues, ratios, recruited parents and ensured we had adequate equipment. And of course talked to the Joey Scouts about their upcoming camp. With the basic framework in place we programmed what would become a full weekend of medieval fun!

On a sunny March day, 19 Joeys from 1st Cranbourne set off to Gilwell Park in Gembrook for two nights under canvas. Along with five Joey Leaders, one Venturer, two Scouts and three parents. So started 1st Cranbourne's first Joey Camp, 'The Knights of Gilwell'.

Our camp set up saw four to five Joeys in each tent, on stretchers, in good quality sleeping bags. The usual that you would expect to see on a Cub or Scout camp. A standard camp kitchen, hand wash station, dining shelter and a nearby toilet block. Menus were kept easy for our parent helpers to prepare and of course taking dietary requirements into account.

So, you might be thinking, 'Hmm, but that sounds just like a normal camp' and you would be right!

The Joey Scouts arrived at Gilwell on Friday afternoon with the camp set up and ready to go. Having the tents labelled with their names added to the excite-



ment with shouts of "here's my tent!" and parents assisting to set up their stretcher before being ushered off site. Once all had arrived, were signed in and parents farewelled it was straight down to it.

We kicked it off with a standard one hour Mob program, just like you would at your hall. Having this familiar feel to it all helped our Joeys settle in for the big camp. Supper and bed followed with excited Joey Scouts talking and giggling as they drifted off to sleep.

Following breakfast on Saturday morning, each Joey received a medieval tunic with a Fleur-de-lis emblem to personalise before we set out through the light Gilwell mist to start their knight training. They practised archery, tried jousting, made catapults, used giant slingshots to launch sponges and had many other adventures. We then returned to camp to be knighted, each receiving their own sword to keep. They practised their sword skills and told jokes to some friendly dragons. We celebrated their achievements well into the night with

a banquet and then much singing and laughter around our campfire circle.

Sunday morning saw the Joeys hike up to the main campfire circle for a short but meaningful Scouts Own themed around Scouting friends. Followed by Russell Bradd meeting the Mob, showing them through the Lodge and sharing his love of Scouting with the next generation.

On returning to the camp, the Joeys were in for a big surprise. Throughout the weekend, they had been earning Gilwell Dollars for good manners, acts of kindness and of course, funny jokes. A market had been set up for them to spend their wealth on tasty treats, woggles and small novelty items with each also receiving a book and medieval banner.

With our Joeys Scouts collected and on the way home, the Leaders reflected on the success of the weekend. Camp layout, programming, menus and number of helpers. Having very thorough planning in the lead up, meant virtually no issues. Sure, an extra pair of hands at times would have been good but even that was solved with one of our parent helpers deciding it was time to pull on a shirt and join us.

Here ends the tale of 1st Cranbourne Joey Mob's first camp under canvas and the beginning of planning our next big adventure at Kangaree 6. See you all there!

Troy Kenward is a Joey Leader 1st Cranbourne.



Cubs

Getting Cubs Outdoors



By **MICHAEL WONG**

So many of our Pack's most memorable Scouting adventures and activities have been outdoors. Be they Pack holidays, Grey Wolf hikes, inter-Pack activities or hikes. Nature and the outdoors should be our primary setting for learning as it fosters and encourages a two-way relationship between the individual and the natural world. Particularly here in Victoria where we have access to some of the most pristine and engaging environments be they our cities or the bush. Our outdoor activities should be adventurous, fun, challenging and inclusive.

Of the four Challenge Areas, the outdoor Challenge Area is often favoured as many of our core Scouting activities are outdoors. Cub Scouts love outdoor activities.

Presenting a great program fosters youth participation and the best ideas for activities and programs are provided by the youth members via the Pack Council guided by adults. By guiding our Cub Scouts we ensure that the program has a balance of the four Challenge Areas.

So how do we guide our Cub Scouts to come up with outdoor activities that are adventurous, fun, challenging and inclusive? Guide is the key word.



By the time your Pack Council meets, the Sixers and Seconds will have met with their Six to review the last program cycle; what worked well, what didn't work well and what could we do better? and they'll have asked their Six for new Challenge Area based activity ideas and suggestions. Even at this stage the Pack Leaders are available to guide the Six, assist the Sixer and Second to an outcome that is productive for the Pack Council.

Often, the only guidance that's required are a few choice words that will stimulate ideas rather than statements that are essentially the activity outcome. If outdoor Challenge Area activities are sought then single or small groups of words such as environment, time in nature, adventurous, journeys or activities are enough. Add in words that describe the type of outdoor activity such as fast, high, safe, wide or slow and suddenly you opened up so many more options.

How can Leaders guide the Pack Council without seemingly taking over

or having too much influence on the end outdoor activity? After all, the program is about activities that the Cub Scouts have themselves decided, their ideas, and their preferences that will drive their participation.

The Pack Council may decide upon a particular type of outdoor activity that will be programmed however occasionally the location or type of activity is not new to the Pack. The Cub Scouts may have already hiked at a particular location or tried that activity. During the discussion the Leader might guide or advocate that the activity is held at a totally new location or be planned as an inter-Pack or inter-Section activity. So ultimately the Pack is participating in an outdoor activity chosen by the Cub Scouts but at a different location and with a variation.

The program planning process develops leadership skills in our youth and it won't be long before the Pack Council will challenge itself planning outdoor activities in new and exciting locations. Outdoor Challenge Areas, our Scout Method elements. Nature and the Outdoors, and Youth Leading Adult Supporting, all contributing to our youth participating in the outdoors and becoming increasingly self-managing.

Michael Wong is State Leader – Program Support Specialist Cub Scout Section



Vanessa's Powerboat Adventure!

By VANESSA HAM

Vanessa, a Scout from 4th Williamstown Scout Group, recently organised a Power Boating journey for her Adventurer Cord.

We started the journey on Friday, staying the night at 4th Williamstown Scout Hall. We slept out the back under the stars, but being the smart Scouts we are, got woken up by the cold weather in the early hours of the morning. Once we had packed up our gear, we packed the boats and made sure we had everything we needed to set out on our adventure to St Leonards.

On our way past Point Cook after spotting some seals, we had to top up fuel in the bay. We then stopped at Werribee boat ramp to make sure the boats were still in good condition to follow through with the journey and to have lunch. But by the time we got there it was 10.30, we were running three hours early so we stopped off for some bait to fish before crossing the Belong Channel.

Just after the channel we cut the engine to do some fishing and caught a flat head



for dinner. We also jumped off the side of the boat and went swimming in the middle of the bay. We all got back on the boat and continued on our way, once we reached St Leonard's we went swimming again and the Leaders took the boats out of the water and onto trailers, then we walked 1.5km to the St Leonard's Scout

Hall where we were staying for the night.

Once we reached the Scout Hall, we washed down the boat and set up camp. Then cleaned, scaled and gutted the fish and cooked it over the fire.

On day two we packed up camp, went back to the boat ramp and put the boats back into the water. We changed our course as the weather was absolutely exceptional, the water was like glass, so we went straight from St Leonard's to Williamstown. On our way in we saw penguins and seals once again

It was a very educational weekend and we all enjoyed ourselves, listening to music and crossing the bay. A big thank you to the support vessel and the people that helped with the trip.

Vanessa Ham is a Scout at 4th Williamstown and a member of the State Scout Council.



LOCAL LOOK

Send photos and captions to
editor@australianscout.com.au



We can build it!

By PETER STEVENSON

Recently our highly skilled Branch Activity Leader for Pioneering, Gino Monteleone, with others from the Pioneering team, led a major pioneering exercise to construct a bridge over the Murrumbidgee River on the outskirts of Canberra.

Doing so required liaison with various government agencies given the structures location, and appropriate safety considerations and logistics given the size and reach of the structure.

The resulting 100 metre structure was fantastic and shows what can be achieved with a great idea and some effort to make it happen. Our congratulations for a great initiative.

Peter Stevenson is ACC - Adult Training & Development, ACT Branch

South Gippsland District ARAs

South Gippsland District held their Awards Night at the Mirboo North Scout Hall. Around 50 people turned out for the night.

The guest speakers were Janet Williams, Jarian Long, John Simpson and Barry Ferguson who spoke about their trip to the 24th World Jamboree in West Virginia USA in July this year.

We had a great supper which was supplied by the Mirboo North Scout Group.



1st Koo Wee Rup



Molly from 1st Koo Wee Rup on the Adventurer Level hike with six other Scouts from the Group. They completed 36 kilometres of the The Great South West Walk.

This years awards went to:

- Joey of the Year - Zane Rudling of Mirboo North.
- Cub of the Year - Kynan Staley of Korumburra.
- Scout of the Year - Renee Hardacre of 2nd Leongatha.
- Venturer of the Year - Ethan Hart of Coal Creek
- Special Awards Outstanding Youth Leader - Tate Moodle
- District Commissioner Award - William Cook of 1st Yarram
- Scouter of the Year - Andrew Cook, 1st Yarram Cub Scout Leader



Introducing the Spag Bol Toll

By PAMELA LAMBERT

Charlie, a Cub at 1st Ferny Creek Scout Group, is lucky enough to be spending a season living on Mount Hotham, where his parents manage The Lodge Ski Club. Charlie was fascinated at the amount of spaghetti bolognese consumed by patrons at the lodge. He began to tally how many bowls of spaghetti bolognese would be consumed in an evening, during the week, then during the season.

Charlie realised he could make a substantial amount of money if he got \$1 for every bowl. A friend suggested that he could raise money for a good cause for his Grey Wolf Badge. So Charlie started up the Spag Bol Toll initiative. He is collecting \$1 from every bowl of spaghetti sold, and at the end of the ski season, he will donate it to Disabled Winter Sports Australia (DWA). Charlie approached 34 other lodges who also came on board with his fundraising. With the help of DWA volunteers he arranged stickers and posters for other lodges and businesses across the resort.

Charlie is hoping to raise enough money to donate a 'sit ski' to DWA through his Spag Bol Toll initiative. He also hopes to continue his initiative next season and wants it to be a regular item on the Mount Hotham fundraising Calendar. Good Luck Charlie!

Pamela Lambert is a Venturer Leader at 1st Ferny Creek.



1st Doreen

Recently Jade, Caitlyn, Chloe and Adam, Cubs from 1st Doreen raised \$440 for the RSPCA! Our local Bunnings were happy to host our cake stall and all four Cubs worked on the stall throughout the day, one Cub staying the whole day to help!



Baked contributions were gratefully accepted from the Scouting families and we received positive feedback from the local community, a few people telling us they were impressed to see the Cubs contributing to a great cause.



1st Greenhill 60 Year Celebration

By BARBARA COLLINS

1st Greenhill Scout Group celebrated 60 years of Scouting at Greenhills on Sunday August 25. A large number of current and former members attended the occasion. The current youth members enjoyed the District climbing wall, and a rope bridge made by the Leaders. Former members enjoyed catching up with old friends and reviewing some of the old photos that were displayed around the Scout Hall. The youngest Joey Anna and our oldest Rover Ian, cut the cake which every one enjoyed as part of the afternoon tea.

Barbara Collins is the Group Leader at 1st Greenhill.





Celebrating Autumn Moon Festival in Williamstown

This year the 4th Williamstown Sea Scouts decided to celebrate their diversity by joining the centuries old Chinese and Vietnamese tradition of the Autumn Moon Festival and Lantern Parade. Scouts and family members as young as five years old crafted paper lanterns and on the evening of the full moon, more than 100 people set off along the Strand in Williamstown carrying brightly coloured lanterns through the dark. Our guests of honour, the Tran Hung Dao Scout Group from St Albans, joined us in traditional Vietnamese costumes and performed songs at the Scout hall, with a campfire and Moon Cakes and Green Tea Supper. It was a beautiful night and we plan it to be an annual shared event between the two communities.



1st Romsey visits the CFA

Romsey Cub Pack had a great time at the Romsey CFA. This term they have been focusing on real-life superheroes and what it means to help other people.



Joey Scouts from Koo Wee Rup, Pakenham, Lakeside Pakenham, Beaconsfield and Upper Beaconsfield had a cheery Sunday morning after a wet Saturday night under canvas.





Underwater Kim's Game

By BRUCE ELLIS

The State Scuba Team recently participated in the Bay Region Adventurous Activities camp at Gilwell Park with around 500 Cub Scouts.

It was at the Underwater Kim's Game that the Cubs true super powers were revealed. Given the task of putting on a mask and snorkel, they had 30 seconds to peer underwater at 21 different objects and memorise them. The stunning result? Cubs from Red Hill, Baden Powell, 4th Mordialloc and Mentone packs got 20 or more correct.



There were sketches drawn of objects, descriptions rather than names, some very inventive spelling presented in the answer sheets. The prize for the best was for discovering the 'Oghto-poss' the finding of which caused us all much delight.

Speaking for the team, we had a great time, appreciated all the 'thank yous' and enjoyed the many Cubs requested a second go through the activity.

Bruce Ellis is State Leader - Scuba.



1st Upwey

1st Upwey Cubs decided to do a picnic at Gilwell Park in the holidays. After doing a quick Pack Council with about a third of the Pack, including some new chums, we meandered around Gilwell before ending on the Flying fox.

Cubs loved being able to run, explore, climb on stuff and fly through air!





1st Eaglehawk Snow Adventure

1st Eaglehawk Cub Pack held a planning night in February 2019 and Cub Jaxon wrote down 'Snow Trip'. Everyone thought this would be pretty awesome fun. There were also lots of other ideas written down, some of which we have used as the basis for other activity ideas.

Through Term 2 and 3 we continued planning, exploring all aspects of when, where, how to get there, what to do, wear and eat while there. The Cubs were mostly very attentive during the planning sessions, sometimes sitting still and listening for up to half an hour! The Group did some fundraising for the trip, planting trees for a very kind Mrs Amanda Gordon Young.

Finally, after planning our three buses, accommodation and food we headed off, almost directly from Eaglehawk hall to the lovely Mansfield Scout Hall. Then we made it to the snow! Heaps of fun was had and a big thank you to everyone who helped out over the weekend.



1st Inverloch



Our Joeys, Cubs and Scouts were recently fortunate to be able to participate in the Heart Safe Community project, a joint initiative by Ambulance Victoria and the Heart Foundation to increase community members knowledge and skills in being able to confidently respond to a cardiac emergency.



Scouts Leigh and Sebastian were recently awarded their Australian Scout Medallions. 1st Inverloch celebrated their achievement with a night of international themed games and a fantastic cake!



The sessions were engaging and informative, with the opportunity for some hands-on practice. A follow-up activity is planned for Term 4 along with a hunt to locate the defibrillators in the town. A big thank you to Amy McHenry for the sessions.

1st Upper Beaconsfield

1st Upper Beaconsfield Joey Scouts headed to their local BMX track for a bike night.



Adults in Scouting

Long Service Awards

September

5 Years

- Richard Adams**, Group Support Committee Member, *Warrnambool Tooram*
- Alison Ahearn**, Group Rostered Parent, *Heathmont*
- Jason Allen**, ASL, *5th Ballarat*
- Rebecca Allen**, Group Support Committee Member, *5th Ballarat*
- Jack Anderson**, PSL, *4th Brunswick*
- Louise Andrew**, Camp Committee Member, *Dromana Sea Scouts*
- Caroline Aquilina**, Group Support Committee Member, *Narre Warren South*
- Norman Arena**, ACSL, *1st Red Hill*
- Gavin Arndt**, PGL, *10th Caulfield*
- Jake Arundell**, ASF-Kariwara
- Annie Asquith**, ACC - Youth Advocacy & Leadership, *Vic Branch*
- Matthew Astill**, Group Rostered Parent, *5th Sandringham*
- Tim Aston**, ACSL, *1st Queenscliff*
- Paul Banim**, Adult Helper, *5th/6th Moorabbin Central*
- Debbie Beckley**, Group Support Committee Fundraising, *Narre Warren South*
- Heidi Bell**, JSL, *3rd Croydon*
- Tania Bell**, Group Rostered Parent, *1st Maroondah*
- Frank Bennett**, ACSL, *1st Wantirna South*
- Jan Black**, Group Treasurer, *Camberwell Showtime*
- Sybil Borthwick**, Group Rostered Parent, *5th Brunswick*
- Richard Brown**, Adult Helper, *Port Melbourne*
- Mary Broz**, Group Support Committee Member, *1st Myrtleford*



Long Service Awards of 30 years to Amber Moynihan of Lake Boga and 10 years to Sarah Archer of Barham at Northern Rivers ARAP

- Brett Butler**, ASL, *4th Knox*
- Luke Byrnes**, PASL, *1st Hurstbridge*
- Anthony Callander**, Group Rostered Parent, *1st Yea*
- Jason Campbell**, ASL, *1st Bright*
- Matt Carruthers**, CSL, *1st Beaconsfield*
- William Cary**, Group Support Committee Member, *3rd Wodonga*
- Jenny Cary**, TASL, *3rd Wodonga*
- Karen Chandler**, Group Rostered Parent, *Heany Park*
- Song Chia**, PAJSL, *2nd/6th Hawthorn*
- Ann Choueiri**, Group Rostered Parent, *2nd Glenroy*
- Alisha Clarke**, PDL - Development, *Hume District*
- Lynden Clarke**, Group Rostered Parent, *1st Kyabram*
- Brooke Collins**, Group Support Committee Member, *1st Point Cook*
- Fiona Cowl**, Group Rostered Parent, *13th Malvern*
- Glen Crawford**, PGL, *Viewbank*
- Adi Crawford**, Adult Helper, *Viewbank*
- Manon Davies**, Group Rostered Parent, *1st Ranelagh*
- Jacqui Day**, PDL - Joey Scouts, *Sherbrooke Forest District*
- Andrew De Wijn**, AVL, *1st Reservoir*
- Robert Dorris**, Group Rostered Parent, *1st Eastern Park*
- Ruth Dousling**, Group Chairman, *2nd Werribee*
- Long Duong**, Group Rostered Parent, *Yet Kieu Sea Scouts*
- Kevin Edwards**, Group Rostered Parent, *Swan Hill*
- Krista Evans**, Group Rostered Parent, *2nd Leongatha*
- Steven Fowler**, Group Support Committee Fundraising, *1st Vermont*
- Julie Frearson**, Group Support Committee Member, *1st New Gisborne*
- Andrew Fulford**, PSL, *1st Yea*
- Guinevere Gilbert**, Group Secretary, *1st Riddells Creek*
- Simon Gleeson**, PJSL, *Wurringga*
- Lisa Gleeson**, Group Rostered Parent, *Wurringga*
- Wendy Gooley**, ACSL, *Warrantyte*
- Pete Gordon**, Group Rostered Parent, *Hawkesdale*
- Emma Goulding**, ACSL, *1st Strathfieldsaye*
- John Greenwood**, Group Rostered Parent, *Heathmont*
- Warren Greig**, ACSL, *Aspendale*
- Louise Grouios**, Group Rostered Parent, *1st Greenhills*



Members from the Australian Scout Fellowship at the inaugural ASF State Gathering held in The Lodge at Clifford Park Activity Centre on September 7 2019.



Chief Commissioner Brendan Watson congratulates Russell Bradd on his Installation as Master of The Baden Powell Lodge no. 488.

Leanne Hamilton, Group Support Committee Fundraising, 1st Vermont

Michael Helmer, Group Rostered Parent, 19th Camberwell

Jamie Hinz, ACSL, 2nd Lara

Alastair Hirst, TACSL, 1st Highton

Joshua Hosking, ASL, 1st 5th Frankston

Ian Humphreys, ASL, 1st Eaglemont

Iain Jansen, Adult Helper, 1st Eltham

Valda Jefimovs, Group Rostered Parent, 5th Melbourne - 1st Latvian

Michael Kronk, Group Rostered Parent, 2nd Glenroy

Eliza Lancaster, AJSL, 4th Knox

Hellen Lang, Group Rostered Parent, Moodemere

Charles Larkin, Group Rostered Parent, 2nd Clifton Hill

Thanh Le, Group Rostered Parent, Yet Kieu Sea Scouts

Chloe Le Page, Adult Helper, Waverley Valley

Selina Lupone, Group Rostered Parent, 2nd Glenroy

Frank Magee, Group Chairman, 10th Footscray

Tania Maisey, CSL, 1st West Waverley

Leanne Male, Fellowship, Rosebud Sea Scouts

Leeanne Mason, AVL, 1st Wallan Wallan

Eric Mccolley, Group Support Committee Quartermaster, 1st Riddells Creek

Adam McDonald, Adult Helper, 1st Berwick

John McDougall, Group Chairman, 3rd Sunbury

Jo McIntyre, PDL - Cub Scouts, Alpine Gateway District

Karen Merlo, SL, 1st Kilmore

Tanja Messner, Group Registrar, 1st Vermont

Carol Mills, TAGL, 2nd Melton

Nick Mioni, Group Chairman, 1st Kyabram

Tyson Morley, TAAL, Cycling Team

Adam Morrow, ACSL, 1st Wheelers Hill

Callum Murdoch, Group Rostered Parent, 3rd/4th Colac

John Murphy, Group Rostered Parent, 1st Bayswater

Maria Nettleton, Group Chairman, 2nd Eltham Sea Scouts

Timothy Norton, Group Support Committee Member, 1st Belgrave South

Sean O'Donnell, Group Rostered Parent, 1st Point Cook

Sue O'Dwyer, Adult Helper, 1st Ballan

Selma Oaten, Group Rostered Parent, 1st West Waverley

Andrew Ogle, Group Rostered Parent, Sale

Vicki Olden, Group Rostered Parent, 5th Brunswick

Rachael Packer, Group Support Committee Member, 1st Point Cook

Andrew Padgett, ASL, 15th Essendon Sea Scouts

Meagan Parr, Group Chairman, 1st Myrtleford

Vu Pham, Group Rostered Parent, Yet Kieu Sea Scouts

Darren Phyland, Group Treasurer, 1st Echuca

Ian Pinney, ASL, 1st Upper Beaconsfield

Aedan Puleston, Group Rostered Parent, 5th Brunswick

Darren Rabinov, Adult Helper, 15th Brighton

Stuart Ralph, Group Rostered Parent, 5th Brunswick

Sarah Ramage, CSL, Pakenham

Peter Richardson, ACSL, Bundoora

Samantha Ross, ASL, 1st Doncaster East

Megan Russell, AJSL, 1st Yackandandah

Rob Sasse, ASF-Boroondara

Kate Schie, PASL, 3rd Ringwood East

Dawn Scoltock, Adult Helper, 1st/2nd Ocean Grove

Steven Scroggie, Group Treasurer, 1st Kilmore

Fiona Seitz, AGL, 1st/2nd Ocean Grove

Alli Shields, Group Rostered Parent, 1st West Waverley

Priya Smith, Group Rostered Parent, Heany Park

David Stanton, ACSL, 1st Victorian Sea Scouts

Daniel Stein, Adult Helper, 15th Brighton

Douglas Sterry, AVL, 1st Lower Plenty

Phill Stevens, ACSL, 1st Broadford

Ritu Surana, Group Rostered Parent, 1st Point Cook

Kit Templeton, AVL, 1st Cranbourne

Robert Thomas, ACSL, 1st Drouin

Rachel Thorne, Group Treasurer, 2nd Woodend

Vicki Thorpe, Group Rostered Parent, 1st Alphington

Paul Tierney, Group Rostered Parent, 2nd Blackburn

Jaime Todd, ACSL, 1st Iramoo

Thuan Tran, AVL, Phu Dong

Sam Underhill, Group Chairman, Warragul



The Banyule District Section and Group Leader's held a farewell dinner to honor Ken Bannan for his service to the Banyule District over the past 15 years.

Ken was presented with a District Scarf with name tapes from all the Groups in the District as a farewell present by Alan Harding who is acting District Commissioner for Banyule.

Ken's experience and effort in running District Scout activities over the years has been appreciated by all in Banyule. We all wish him well and hope to see him take up a role in ASF.

Inara Upite, Group Rostered Parent, 5th Melbourne - 1st Latvian
Karina Vejins, Group Rostered Parent, 5th Melbourne - 1st Latvian
Kate Vrsecky, ASL, 1st Glen Iris
Jacqui Waterkeyn, Adult Helper, 1st Eltham
John Williamson, AVL, 1st Heatherdale
Greg Wilson, ASL, 1st Bayswater
Jason Winters, TRA, 4th Knox
Marina Wirubov, TASL, 1st Victorian Sea Scouts
Jacinta Woehl, PGL, 1st Gembrook
Cameron Woods, ASL, 1st New Gisborne
Natalie Wright, Group Support Committee Fundraising, 2nd Melton
Gabrielle Wright, Group Rostered Parent, 1st Ranelagh

10 Years

Helene Bennie, ASL, 1st Myrtleford
Kevin Bird, ASF-Mafeking Rover Park
Elysia Bonfield, JSL, 1st Gembrook
Esther Casey, ACSL, 4th Ringwood
Suzanne Clark, ASF-Cardinia
Paul Coleman, Group Support Committee Fundraising, South Metro Showtime
Melissa Cugley, AJSL, Bundoora
Courtney Daly, ASF-Frankston
Mark Davies, ASL, 1st Wallan Wallan
Detle De Vere, PDL - Venturers, Boroondara District
Rachel Double, ASF-Frankston
Ashleigh Ferguson, PSL, 4th Ringwood
Joy Flack, ASL, 1st Trafalgar
Cheryl Gardner, Group Rostered Parent, South Metro Showtime
Tom Gibson, PGL, Rosebud Sea Scouts
Casey Gray, State Leader - Rockclimbing, Rock Climbing Team
Simon Gray, PGL, 2nd Lara
Alan Green, District Personnel Committee Member, Glen Eira Stonnington District
Paul Grinter, ALS, 1st Cobram
Stephen Hall, AGL, 1st Kallista
Michael Hart, AJSL, 2nd Korumburra
Sue Henderson, ASF-Victorian Branch Gang Show



Mignon Hogan (30 years), Adele Sharpe (46 years) and Kaye Perkins (50 years) were thanked for their long term commitment as they retired from their District Team roles at the Manningham ARAP.

Louise Hodgetts, PAVL, 5th Mildura
Lauren Holcombe, JSL, Port Fairy
Wayne Johansson, ASL, 5th Keilor
Geoff Jones, ASL, 1st Vermont
Wayne Kerr, SL, 1st Ivanhoe Sea Scouts
Lui Lam, Group Secretary, 1st Templestowe
Jonathan Lee, AVL, Warrnambool Tooram
Tyna Lee, AVL, Warrnambool Tooram
Peter Leed, ASF-Greater Dandenong
Debra Legg, Group Rostered Parent, 2nd Colac
Darren Legge, PGL, 1st/3rd Cheltenham
Jacinta Lynch, ASF-Moonee Valley
Linda Mackenzie, ASF-Djerriwarrh
Aaron Matthews, ASF-Mornington Peninsula
Travis Parkes, Camp Committee Member, WF Waters Lodge Mt Baw Baw
Anita Prossor, Group Rostered Parent, South Metro Showtime
Kerri Retallick, CSL, 5th Mildura

Ryan Unsworth, GL, 1st Carrum Downs
Jo Whitehouse, CSL, 1st Iramoo
Tracy Wood, CSL, 3rd/4th Colac

15 Years

Greg Barkla, Group Treasurer, 1st Castlemaine
John Fleming, ASF-Mt Baw Baw
Jim Garcia, PDL - Cub Scouts, Goulburn Murray District
Jane Gardner, ASL, 1st Gisborne
Richard Gasior, ASF-Geelong Peninsula
Debra Hart, DL - Joey Scouts, Casey District
Geoff Hudson, Adult Helper, Whitehorse District
Edward Kays, ASF-Djerriwarrh
Garth Keech, Group Support Committee Member, 1st Strathfieldsaye
Shannon Long, ASL, 1st Craigieburn
Jeff Marriott, Region Rostered Parent, Mt Dandenong Region
Helen Maynard, SL, 1st Vermont
Karen Moore, AJSL, 1st Yarrowonga
Lynne Murdoch, GL, 3rd/4th Colac
Marc Ortlieb, GL, 6th Box Hill
Iain Penman, VL, 1st Mount Evelyn
Vicki Rothwell, ASF-State Quartermaster
Mark Sells, VL, 2nd Eltham Sea Scouts
Scott Tennyenhuis, ASF-South Gippsland
Michael Thompson, RA, 1st Churchill
Colleen Thompson, DC, Djerriwarrh District
Shirley Van Heurck, ASF-Strzelecki
Ray Watson, Group Chairman, 4th Frankston
Chook Wilson, CSL, Narre Warren

20 Years

Michael Berman, Group Chairman, 1st Glen Iris
Christopher Davis, TAVL, 1st Strathmore
Kylie Durant, ASF-City Of Knox
David Edelman, PRA, Warragul
Alan Harford, CSL, 1st Woori Yallock



VSC Membership Support team member Mary Stanek, was presented with a thank you at Geelong Region's ARAP on her recent retirement.

Shannon Nutt, PDL - Joey Scouts, Whitehorse District

Ian Parlby, ASF-4X4 Team

Kirsty Parr, TASL, Bundoora

Gavan Saker, PDL - Scouts, Werribee Plains District

Richard Trainor, PDL - Cub Scouts, Geelong Rivers District

Frank Wilde, Adult Helper, Ballarat District

Felicia Zinas, Group Rostered Parent, Dandenong

25 Years

Jenny Adams, JSL, 1st Hurstbridge

Graeme Bonser, PAVL, Hampton

Brian Cook, PGL, 1st Barwon Heads

Naomi Druvins, SL, 1st Hastings

Bruce Eager, Group Support Committee Hall Hire Contact, 1st Ashburton

Robert Hain, VL, 15th Brighton

Geoffrey Harris, Group Rostered Parent, 1st West Waverley

Michael McGrath, ASF-Adventurous Activities

Vicki Sykes, Asst State Commissioner - Joey Scouts, Vic Branch

30 Years

Greg Brown, Group Rostered Parent, 1st Emerald

Laurel Freeman, SL, 1st Hoppers Crossing

Phil Hayes, TGL, 1st Berwick

Mignon Hogan, GL, 1st Templestowe

Naomi Lang, ASF-Monash

Fred Meehan, ASF-Bendigo

Manh-Ha Nguyen, PAGL, Yet Kieu Sea Scouts

Craig Waters, GL, 1st Broadford

35 Years

Ron Burton, VL, 1st Irymple

Iain Donaldson, RA, 2nd Footscray



Scout Foundation Directors Kevin Moss, Neil Westaway, David Jones, Dion Ellis, David Crundall and Bob Taylor.

Glenys Pelletier, DL - Cub Scouts, Boroondara District

40 Years

Gary Brand, SL, 10th Caulfield

Heather Burton, ASF-Glenelg River

John De Wijn, Office Bearer, Victorian Scout Foundation

Peter Deane, ASF-Whitehorse

Barrie Harding, DL - Adult Training Support, Whitehorse District

Judith Lawes, ACSL, Hoa Lu

Richard Michell, Group Rostered Parent, 1st Nunawading

Ian Munro, PARC - Development, Geelong Region

45 Years

Robert Herd, AGL, 1st Taylors Lakes



Scouts Foundation Directors present Scout Archie with the Commercial Travellers Scholarship.

Norma Neil, ASF-Central Committee Treasurer, Vic Branch

50 Years

Keith Davidson, Scout Foundation Member, Victorian Scout Foundation

55 Years

Stewart Cuddeford, ASF-Kororoit

Wood Badge Awards

August

Joey Scout Leader

Justin Maxwell, AJSL, 1st Cranbourne

Judith Trigt, JSL, 1st Maroondah

Cub Scout

Gregor Potts, PCSL, 7th Cheltenham

Adam Tanti, ACSL, Heathmont

Mark Carter, ACSL, 2nd Blackburn

Sarah Ramage, CSL, Pakenham

Giselle Morgan, ACSL, 7th Cheltenham

Helen Finlay, ACSL, 1st Heatherdale

Chris Fisher, ACSL, 1st Greenhills

Kiru Periyasamy, ACSL, Narre Warren

Marcus Tabart, ACSL, 1st Nunawading

Scout Leader

Leon Dent, SL, 1st Stratford

Leah Jury, ASL, 1st Castlemaine

Sara Williams, ASL, Mulgrave

Justin Smith, PSL, Mulgrave

Samantha Ross, ASL, 1st Doncaster East

Meagan Hilbert, ASL, 1st Mornington

Dan Cliff, PAGL, 1st Eaglehawk

Venturer

Ceri Braithwaite, VL, 1st Beaconsfield

Group Leader

Brendan Fear, PGL, 1st Hoppers Crossing

Jacqui Kay, GL, 1st Eaglehawk

District Commissioner

Nikki Coffey, Asst State Commissioner - Cub Scouts, Vic Branch

September

Joey Scout

Marrianne Fry, AJSL, 1st Maroondah

Michelle Gowing, JSL, 4th Williamstown

Corinne Twomey, JSL, 1st Kyneton

Cub Scout

Stuart Howe, ACSL, 1st Whittlesea

Glen Ker, ACSL, 1st Wallan Wallan

Bianca Vincent, ACSL, 5th Keilor

Tracey Haverkort, ACSL, West Traralgon

Peter Miles, ACSL, 1st Drysdale

Nathan Clark, ACSL, 1st Kilmore

Vanessa Cutcliffe, ACSL, 1st Greenhills

Kate Jenkins, ACSL, 1st Alexandra

Kelly Menzies, CSL, 1st Alexandra

Scout

Graham Van Damme, ASL, 1st North Balwyn

Kit Stagg, SL, 1st Beaconsfield

Brett Butler, ASL, 4th Knox

Tim Clifton, SL, 1st Grovedale

Venturer

Sara Egan, AVL, 1st Lower Plenty

Group Leader

Mick Packer, GL, 2nd Werribee

Tim Purdy, GL, 1st Epping

Andrew Ewenson, GL, 1st Upper Beaconsfield

Andrew Bowyer-Smyth, GL, 1st Riddells Creek

District Commissioner

Brad Peters, Project Commissioner, Vic Branch

1st Ballan and the CWA

Mid-Winter Bush Dance

By VERONIKA SMITH

Social isolation is an issue that affects more people than you would expect. In fact, one in six of us will experience periods of emotional loneliness. With technology's growing role in our lives, social media platforms can connect us instantly with people the world over. But sometimes, our reliance on gadgets can mean we miss out on real life interactions. Winter can be a particularly lonely and isolating time, as everyone is cozied up indoors.

The Ballan and District County Womens Association branch has decided to tackle this issue head on in our community by hosting a good old-fashioned mid-winter bushdance in our town with the 1st Ballan Scout Group helping out.

They invited a bush dance band with a dance caller to teach everyone the moves, and cooked up a delicious supper of homemade soups and delicious treats. With the generous support from Ballan and District Bendigo Community Bank Branch, they were able to make this event free for all community members, young and old.

The CWA generously set up a lemonade stand for the 1st Ballan Scout Group, who sold refreshing home-made lemonade between dance sets. The Scouts from all Sections did a wonderful job and sold over 200 cups of lemonade. It was a great opportunity to not only fund-raise and represent our Group, but also to work on leadership, business and sales skills and to have fun with other community members on a cold wintry night.



We kept everyone refreshed and smiling while our community was linking hands in friendship as they danced together at our first Ballan Community Bushdance.



A CWA Cooking Class

1st Ballan Joey Scouts and their friends attended a delightful Country Womens Association cooking class at the local RSL Hall. Our mentors from the Ballan & District Country Women's Association guided us through the recipes they prepared especially for our Joeys.

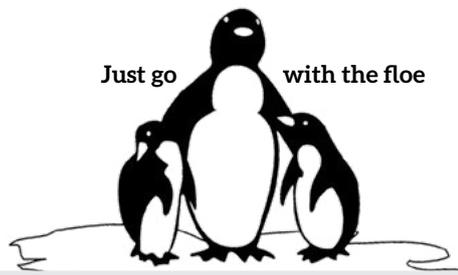
The Joey Scouts were given the task of making pizza for their school lunch and some yummy Milo balls for dessert. They got very hands on with chopping veggies, grating cheese, choosing toppings and making their own pizza. Their favourite part was rolling their yummy snack balls and coating them in coconut and sprinkles!

We hoped that the pizzas will make it into the next day's lunchbox, but most of the culinary creations didn't even make it out of the RSL Hall before they were enthusiastically demolished by the hungry mini chefs.

From that great experience we've seen first-hand how beneficial mentoring from the CWA was for the younger generations in our community and we decided to get even more hands on with a cooking class. We hope to continue working together and strengthening our relationship with local community groups.

Veronika Smith is a Trainee Assistant Joey Leader at 1st Ballan





Christmas trees

Once again, the whole Group will turn out for our annual Christmas Tree drive.

The Joeys' contribution is mainly ornamental. They pose as angels on top of each tree. (Adorbs!) The Cubs will sell hand-made decorations. (They're awful, but few can refuse.) The Scouts maintain our trees, furiously glueing back any fallen pine needles as heat-stressed trees furiously shed their leaves and wonder why we observe European traditions in a hot southern land. The Venturers will offer random shoppers deals that they can't afford to refuse. The Rovers will provide moral support.

We're quietly confident of breaking even.

Joeys 2020

The focus in term 1 is Kangaree. The focus in term 2 is recovery. (For the Leaders. The Joeys will be fine.)

Cubs 2020

The focus in terms 1, 2 and 3 is Cuboree. Then for one crazy week in October 4000 of us will camp in the sun and rain. Just five days, but we'll come home a year older.



Scouts 2020

The Troop Council has mandated that at least one meeting each month must be totally outdoors. This doesn't include the playground at McDonalds.

Venturers 2020

There is research showing that Venturers

get better results in year 12 because of Scouting's team-oriented, outdoor, social, and leadership elements. Some see this as 'More Venturers, less homework.' But teachers reckon you have to do both.

Rovers 2020

New MudBash rules require every Crew to have a designated Joey on their team. This year's Joey trial proved their worth in slipping into tight spaces to retrieve fallen nuts, washers and tools. Apart from Crews having to turn in at 7 pm, and have Coco Pops and cartoons at 6.30 am, the designated Joey will have little impact on the traditional MudBash social program.

Holidays

Wishing all members of the Group, including the Treasurer, a happy crispness and a snappy new year.

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