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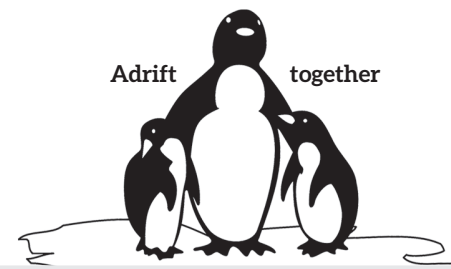
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**The 1st
WINDY
VALLEY**

May 2020

Mask up for Scouting



**Monthly
BLAST**

Edition 144

Scouting at home

Online Scouting has been a great success. As the Leaders no longer have to clean up the mess after Joeys, they've extended the program: mud pies, flour flights, arc welding.

And the Cubs are loving Akela's naivety about Zoom. When the meeting is over, all the Cubs sign out - but Akela doesn't. Half an hour later they log back in to watch her waltzing around her living room in a Spiderman onesie, or weeping over her photo album.

The Scouts challenged the Rovers to a Tik Tok competition. The Scouts pulled some dab moves while the Rovers posted photos of clocks.

The Venturers are running a series of guest speakers. President Trump, Hugh Jackman and Ash Barty are just three of the many invitees who haven't responded yet.



Jamboree update

While the Group waits for good news on other major events, like Cuboree, the Troop is busy planning fundraising, badgework and camps for AJ 2022.

Like many Troops, we've studied the Mutant Camel training videos and wondered if they were based on us.

But we're most excited about some of the new ideas for AJ 2022. The supermarket style of catering means that Scouts get a big say in their menu. Then the Patrol Leaders over-rule them and common sense prevails.

Activities will also be different. Every Scout's experience will be unique - with so much to choose from. Previously some said it was only fair if everyone did the same: if some kids didn't get to do air activities, no one did. The corollary was that if one Scout got a boyfriend from Tasmania, everyone had to get a boyfriend from Tasmania. And if one Scout broke their arm, everyone had to break their arm.

No more! Another win for diversity!

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Gippsland Craig Hocking

Lerderberg Wayne Gunn OAM (acting)

Loddon Mallee TBA

Melbourne Michelle Grierson

Mt Dandenong Brett Cole

Northern Darren Leckie

Plenty Valley Alan Harding

West Coast Robert Rowe

Western Ian Lock

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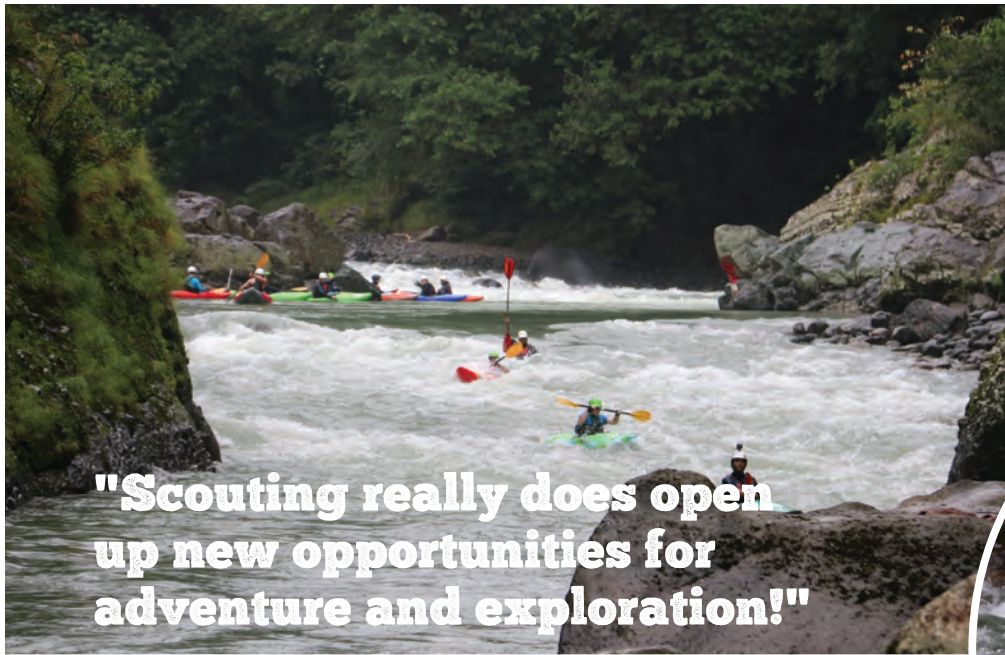
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Scouts Victoria is a Child Safe organisation with zero-tolerance for any harm, abuse or neglect. We value the diversity of our members, including gender, sexuality, race, religion and ability. Visit our Child Safe Scouting webpage for more information.

Australian Scout May 2020



"Scouting really does open up new opportunities for adventure and exploration!"

We recently spent a week on the rivers of Costa Rica, consolidating the skills learned from the Paddling Team of Scouts Victoria, in particular Ian Gibson (Paddle Team Instructor) and two successive State Leaders, Jimmy Gardner Gaskin and Shaun Smith. Paddling through the Costa Rican jungle on crystal clear rivers surrounded by teeming wildlife was an experience we never would have had without being involved with the Team. Hope you enjoy the pictures of Ian, Matthew Prudden (Rover) and me!



Terry Prudden is the Group Leader at 2nd Mornington Sea Scouts.



May 2020 Australian Scout



Scouts AUSTRALIA

inside...



COVER:
A Joey having a blast on the water slide at Kangaree! More on page 8.
Photo: Kangaree Media Team



8

12



24



22

regulars

- 4 News
- 6 A word from Rod
- 26 Joey Scouts
- 27 Cub Scouts
- 28 Scouts
- 29 Let's Look Local
- 31 Adults in Scouting
- 35 Windy Valley

feature

- 8 **Beyond All Limits**
Joey Scouts celebrated another amazing turnout for Kangaree.
- 12 **Scouting at Home**
Scouts get innovative Scouting at Home!
- 16 **Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell**
The new Lord Baden-Powell is a local.
- 20 **One Program, One Continuous Journey**
Victoria is embracing the new Scouting program.
- 22 **Keeping Safe**
Some badge work isn't just great for Scouts, it's relevant to everyone.
- 23 **Seven Seas - Plenty Valley Regional Gathering**
Plenty Valley celebrate their 10th Birthday with a trip to the Seven Seas!
- 24 **Australia's Largest Venturer Event**
There was no shortage of activities for Venturers at Anything Goes!
- 33 **Clean Up Australia Day**
Scouts 'stepped up to clean up' at this year's event.
- 34 **Rafting Costa Rica**
Our Adventurous Activities can take you anywhere, even Costa Rica!



(From left to right, Levi Stevens, Jon Stevens, Blair Wimhurst, Phoenix Rogers, Mat Rogers, Cam James.)



The Kokoda Track

By **BLAIR WIMHURST**

On March 10-19 2020, I walked the Kokoda track with 100% Kokoda to raise money for 4ASD Kids, a charity set up by Mat Rogers and his wife Chloe Maxwell to support children with autism, and their families.

The trek itself was an amazing accomplishment but being able to do it with such incredible people really made it worth the trip.

It was challenging and you really can't put the whole experience into words.

Hearing stories about the men, such as Sam Templeton and the Bisset brothers, who fought and died on the track, from a soldier's perspective really set the scene and gave me more of an understanding of what actually occurred during WW2.

Blair Wimhurst is a Venturer at 1st Wodonga.



1st Iramoo Scout Group.



1st Mount Beauty Scout Group.



1st Caroline Springs Scout Group.



10th Ivanhoe Scout Group.

1st-14th Brighton Scout Group.



Newborough Scouts 'Step Up to Clean Up'

1st Newborough Scout Group helped clean up three local parks for this years Clean Up Australia Day. The Joeys were at Barbara Allpress Reserve where the Scout Hall is located, the Cubs and Scout were at nearby Monash Reserve, and the Venturers set to work in the Henry White Reserve picking up rubbish left behind in the carparks and around the BMX track, playground and toilets.

One of the fundamental aims of Scouting is to encourage young people to get outside and engage with the natural world. Gently guiding our youth to respect and care for nature is a big part of what Scouting is all about at 1st Newborough.



1st Eltham Scout Group.



1st Hoppers Crossing Scout Group.



Viewbanks Scout Group.

Australian Scout May 2020



1st Tootgarook Scout Group



4th Williamstown Scout Group.



Victorians profiled on IWD

By **DAVID LYONS**

Scouts Australia and Scouts Victoria celebrated International Women's Day on social media with a celebration of the achievements of women who volunteer as adults in Scouting. March 8 2020 was celebrated worldwide and, as Scouting is often stereotyped as a male activity, in 2020 Scouting challenged this by sharing stories of some of the amazing women in Scouting.

The Victorian celebration was a six-minute Facebook video featuring women who hold a range of roles from Group Leader to Assistant Chief Commissioner, representing everything from our Joey program to international Scouting. The video highlights how Scouting has influenced the day-to-day life of members, family links in Scouting, and advice to women looking to join Scouting.

The video can still be seen on the Scouts Victoria Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/scoutsvictoria/videos/199128761318390/>

Scouts Australia social media released a range of profiles including four Victorian women.

Aline Thompson, acting State Commissioner for Heritage, told how her family's involvement drew her into Scouting.

Kara Barker, Group Leader of 1st City of Camberwell, says she takes inspiration from her sister, Daniella Taglieri, Victoria's Deputy Chief Commissioner. On March 8 Kara married Cub Scout Leader Jake Baker so IWD wasn't the only thing on her mind that day.

Maria Christofilopoulos, a Joey Scout Leader at 9th Oakleigh, says the quote from Scouting's founder: "The real way to gain happiness is to give it to others" resonates with her as a volunteer.

Jazz Zibell, a former Victorian Rover Council Chairman, and Moot Chief for "The Moot" (hosted by Victoria in 2017), encouraged all women who are Rovers and Leaders to encourage and empower other females to pursue leadership roles. "Scouting gives you the ability to grow as a person and a leader. I have learnt so many valuable skills that assist me in my everyday life that becomes just part of you."

You can read profiles of these four women and others at <https://scouts.com.au/blog/tag/international-womens-day/>

We thank all the women who participated in these projects and who represent the 42 per cent of Adults in Scouting nationally who are female, and the growing equality in gender representation across Scouting in Victoria.

David 'Wombat' Lyons is State Commissioner for Diversity and Inclusion.

Sue Weppner, AVL, 1st Cobden

15 Years

Warrick Alldridge, ASL, 5th/6th Moorabbin Central

Pamela Greenwood, ASF-Mt Baw Baw

Glen Hawksworth, RA, 3rd Croydon

Ian Lock, RC, Western Region

Vanessa Maxwell, Adult Helper, 1st Werribee

Kylie McKenzie, VL, 1st Malvern

Tim Smith, SL, 1st Lilydale

Eric Staff, PGL, 1st Upwey

20 Years

Lel Balfe-Shipley, ASF-Geelong Peninsula

Ian Bennett, District Executive Committee Member, Yarra Ranges District

Josh Bretherton,

ACSL, 5th/6th Moorabbin Central

Michael Cole, ASL, 2nd Colac

Heather Davis,

TAJSL, 2nd Strathmore

Peter Gray, Group Rostered Parent, 1st Balwyn

Leesa Harford, Group Support Committee Member, 1st Woori Yallock

Stephen Joiner,

VL, 1st Upper Beaconsfield

Brian Kelly, Provisional District Leader -

Cub Scouts, Whitehorse District

Daniel Lai, District Leader -

Scouts, Manningham District

Peter McHenry, SL, Bacchus Marsh

Peter Robinson, TASL, 1st Kew

Sandra Stone, Group Treasurer, 4th Altona

Martin Williams, AVL, 2nd/6th Hawthorn

25 Years

Colin Clark, PSL, 1st Werribee

Amelinda Ilardi, PAVL, 1st North Balwyn

Gunner Pearce, Provisional District Leader - Scouts, Wimmera District

Amanda Schaap, ASL, 1st Hoppers Crossing

Karen Watson, Group Rostered Parent, 5th/6th Moorabbin Central

30 Years

Cathy Morgan, PASL, 2nd Springvale



A group photo from the recent Gilwell Reunion.

Tom Thorpe, District President, Whitehorse District

Barbara West, District Treasurer, Macedon Ranges District

35 Years

Gordon Dendle, District Personnel Committee Convener, Geelong Peninsula District

Heather Elliott, Group Rostered Parent, 4th Williamstown Sea Scouts

Trevor King, PGL, 3rd Melton

Ann Pearce, AVL, 2nd Horsham

Dorothy Salter, GL, 1st Seville

Denis Toogood, District Leader - Venturers, Sherbrooke Forest District

40 Years

Tim Denyer, SL, 3rd Beaumaris

Russell Oldham, Provisional District Leader - Adult Training Support, Sherbrooke Forest District

45 Years

Ian Talbett, GL, 1st Mont Albert

50 Years

Chris Noone, ASL, Croydon Central

Manos Avtzis, GL, 9th Oakleigh

Mark Coates, GL, 1st Point Cook

Joey Scout

Shirin Witts, Provisional District Leader - Joey Scouts, Moonee Valley District

Belynda Smith, AJSL, 1st Grovedale

Rover

Craig Francis, PRA, 4th Ringwood

Scout

Bacon Ham, SL, 4th Williamstown Sea Scouts

David Crockett, ASL, 1st Tootgarook

Charlotte McGregor, PSL, 3rd Ringwood East

Venturer

Maureen Rodgers, AVL, 1st Langwarrin

Alexander Murer, AVL, 1st Reservoir

May 2020 **Australian Scout**



Rovers at AG

After the success of the "I want to be a Rover" activity at VG, we decided to expand the idea and head to AG. Linking between Venturers and Rovers is often tricky, and we thought this concept would not only encourage linking but also highlight the range of incredible activities Rovers get up to, from Mudbash to Surfmoor, to national Moots like CBR and fun events like MARB. We were able to chat about Rover assets, including the WF Waters lodge, and our badgework process.

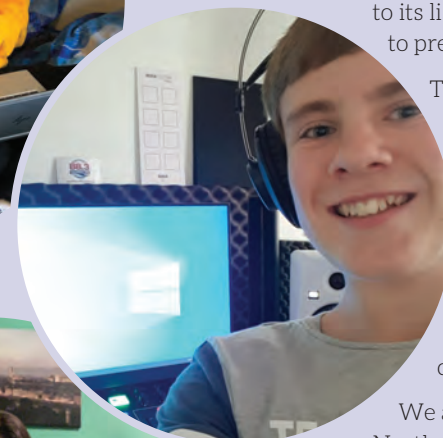
Thanks to the rovers who volunteered their time to assist, especially Mudbash who brought a car along.

We took this opportunity to show off Rovers to the Venturer Section and it was a blast. Thanks to everyone who came and supported, especially Lachlan Buhagiar who ran the expo and did an incredible job.

Jade Sheehan is a Rover at 4th Knox.



Tom



Bjorn



Thea

The next World Moot – in Ireland from July 19 2021 – is an opportunity to connect with Rovers from all over the world

We are super excited to announce that applications for World Moot open on June 1 this year. If you are born between July 18 1995 and July 19 2003 you can come as a participant.

If you are a touch older do not worry – we need International Service team members (IST).

The optional pre-tour will be in Scotland and Ireland, and then the optional post-tour in Spain, Portugal and Morocco. This will be a chance to travel to some really culturally rich locations with the Australian contingent who will be your new family. So, get excited and get saving. I hope Victoria will have their largest overseas contingent ever at this event.



Financial information will be out soon, so jump on our Facebook page and website for more info.

Jade Sheehan is also a Victorian World Moot Representative.

The Scout Show in isolation

By **TOM HEAP**

The team at The Scout Show has been working hard to bring the show to its listeners. Due to social distancing rules the hosts were restricted to present the program from their homes.

The program is broadcast on the third Tuesday at 3 pm on 88.3 Southern FM (based in Brighton).

But for the Social Isolation special on Wednesday April 1, no-one was in the studio.

The hosts were Thea from Camberwell, Tom from Kew East, Bjorn from Beaumaris, Darcy in Mordialloc, and Colin doing tech work in his home studio in Brighton. We went to the most extreme lengths like lying in beds, sitting on the floor, chilling at a desk and maybe even standing up for some of it.

We also had guests coming in from all over, including Malvern, Northcote and country Victoria.

With Bjorn checking messages from Facebook and Instagram, the team had a rather fresh experience. Being unable to see each other there was a flurry of off-mic messages leaving thumbs quite sore after the show.

From the radio team we just want to say thanks and hope you all enjoyed listening. Till next time, Keep Scouting!!!

Tom Heap is a Venturer at 1st Balwyn.

Wood Badge Awards

February

Cub Scout

Angela Petrie, ACSL, 1st Edithvale

District Leader/Commissioner

Colin Ritchie, District Leader - Venturers, Cardinia District

Ian Taylor, District Leader - Adult Training Support, Moreland-Darebin District

Group Leader

Troy Kenward, GL, 1st Cranbourne

Venturer Leader

Quintin Coutinho, VL, 1st Wheelers Hill

Scotty Harrison, Provisional Rover Commissioner-Region, Vic Branch

March

Cub Scout

Hamish Lucas, ACSL, Bundoora

Amanda Wyllie, PCSL, 1st Seymour

Jasmine Cresp, Provisional District Leader - Cub Scouts, Moonee Valley District

Katrina Tivendale, ACSL, 1st Edithvale

Liz Cameron, ACSL, 1st Tyabb

District Leader/Commissioner

Peter Wotherspoon, State Commissioner - Rover Support, Vic Branch

Doug Waldron, District Leader - Venturers, Monash District

Simon Casey, Provisional State Commissioner - Risk And Safety, Vic Branch

Group Leader

Tim Woollam, AGL, 2nd Werribee



a few words from Rod

Rod Byrnes
Chief Commissioner
Scouts Victoria

Well it has been an interesting start for our new State Leadership Team.

Just as we got all excited about planning for a huge year of camps, activities, and major events the need shifted to planning for how we could all keep safe and still run in a global pandemic.

We went from a huge party weekend at Kangaree with over 1600 Joey Scouts to creating a virtual delivery method for our program within less than a month. This is when Scouts are at our resilient best.

I congratulate every Leader, adult helper, parent, friend and especially our youth members for tackling the current social distancing challenge head on to deliver our program. I have seen and heard of some amazing virtual experiences across all our Sections.

We are truly all in this together and doing our best to deliver great Scouting in a virtual world.

It is at times like these that our training, skills, and capabilities really stand out. Please continue to dig deep. This is when we all need to aspire to be our best selves.

Kangaree

Diana Swift, ACC Program, and I were so lucky to have celebrated Kangaree at Lardner Park with Joey Scouts from all over Victoria. Everywhere we went there were mobs of excited Joey Scouts running, giggling and enjoying themselves as they embraced the various activity bases. I took two important messages from the visit.

- The many Joey Scouts and Joey Leaders who enjoyed camping in tents, and
- Our young adults' ability to learn and lead are awesome. Well done to James Warren and your awesome team for creating such a memorable youth experience.



Rod with Kangaree Director James Warren.

Fee Free Scouting

Thank you to our Group Leaders for your support in offering Scouting without fees to families until March 2021. We know many of our families are doing it tough and we want to ensure no one is unable to do Scouting because of financial constraints. We acknowledge this decision has put added pressure on our Groups and our Scouting communities have been generous with offering donations. I expect Groups will be looking for creative ways to fundraise. Please try to support them where you can.



Adults in Scouting

Long Service Awards

February

5 Years

Darren Andrew, Group Support Committee Member, *Dromana Sea Scouts*

Rocky Baker, VL, *1st Lang Lang*

Ben Beamish, Adult Helper, *Strzelecki Showtime*

Megan Clark, SL, *Narre Warren*

Shelley Connell, ACSL, *1st Chelsea Heights*

Andrew Ewenson, GL, *1st Upper Beaconsfield*

Michelle Geppert, Group Support Committee Member, *1st Ranelagh*

Karl Geppert, Group Rostered Parent, *1st Ranelagh*

Jacob Last, Group Support Committee Member, *Strzelecki Showtime*

Lachlan McDonald, ASL, *4th Mordialloc*

Graham Mitchell, District Executive Committee Member, *Greater Dandenong District*

Stephen Perry, Adult Helper *Strzelecki Showtime*

Andrew Pope, AVL, *1st Ranelagh*

Caz Potts, Group Support Committee Member, *Strzelecki Showtime*

10 Years

Kim Brooks, JSL, *1st Carrum Downs*

Gay Churchill, Group Rostered Parent, *1st Yarrunga*

15 Years

Jim McAlinden, VL, *Aspendale*

Matt Sherry, ASF-Mornington Peninsula

Janet Williams, PVL, *2nd Leongatha*

35 Years

Leanne Fraser, GL, *1st Beaconsfield*

March

5 Years

Mari Albiston, PGL, *1st Mornington*

Paul Beavis, Adult Helper, *1st Tally Ho*

Sophie Brown, ASL, *Bairnsdale*

Simon Brown, ACSL, *1st Beaumaris*

Megan Coster, CSL, *1st Drouin*

Liesl Coulthard, GL, *1st Nunawading*

Jasmine Cresp, Provisional District NLeader - Cub Scouts, *Moonee Valley District*

Chris Crowe, Adult Helper, *13th Malvern*

Damien Dambrosi, Group Rostered Parent, *Lynden Park*

Sharon Delpol, Group Support Committee Member, *1st Yarra Junction*

Rohan Dummett, ASL, *1st The Basin*

Belinda Dunstan, Group Rostered Parent, *Bairnsdale*

Sarah Giles, Group Secretary, *4th Knox*

Tabetha Graham, Adult Helper, *Benalla*

Jason Greenhalgh, AJSL, *1st/14th Brighton*

Leanne Handoll, Group Registrar, *Warrandyte*

Kathrine Harris, Group Rostered Parent, *1st Mountain Rivers*

Michael Hogg, ACSL, *Aspendale*

Ralph Horn, ASL, *1st Monbulk*

Debra Jones, Group Rostered Parent, *1st Vermont*

Emily Kennedy, Camp Assistant Manager, *Clifford Park*

Jeff Kerr-Bell, Group Support Committee Member, *1st Sandringham*

Rahel Leivenzon, ACSL, *15th Brighton*

Helen Macleod, Group Treasurer, *2nd Knoxfield*

Carol Maddern, GL, *1st Sunshine*

Janine Madsen, Group Support Committee Fundraising, *1st/3rd Cheltenham*

Emma McIntyre, VL, *1st Taylors Lakes*

Angela Molloy, Group Support Committee Member, *1st Cobden*

Dave Moors, Group Rostered Parent, *Bairnsdale*

Jenny O'Connell, PGL, *2nd Glen Waverley*

Gael Peters, AJSL, *2nd/3rd Bayswater*

Lachlan Preston, GL, *1st Fitzroy*

Carol Price, District Badge Secretary, *Yarra Ranges District*

Gillian Rose, Office Bearer, *GWS Anderson Scout Park*

Hamish Routley, ACSL, *1st Hoppers Crossing*

Jacinta Sapwell, JSL, *1st New Gisborne*

Tony Saywell, ACSL, *1st Mitcham*

Greg Scott, ASL, *3rd Ringwood East*

Marcus Shirrefs, ACSL, *2nd/6th Hawthorn*

Darryl Simms, Adult Helper, *Wonga Park*

Anita Smith, Adult Helper, *2nd Melton*

Nicole Timms, ASL, *4th Horsham*

Phuong Tong, Group Treasurer, *Phu Dong*

Corinne Twomey, JSL, *1st Kyneton*

David Uren, Group Support Committee Quartermaster, *19th Camberwell*

Sally Waterman, AJSL, *1st Vermont*

Rhonda Wiggins, PAJSL, *2nd Leongatha*

Alexander Wilcox, Group Rostered Parent, *2nd Woodend*

Chris Woodroffe, ACSL, *1st The Basin*

10 Years

Lawrie Barber, PVL, *1st Caroline Springs*

Jackie Barclay, CSL, *1st Sunshine*

Tu Dang, ACSL, *Tran Hung Dao*

Scott Davies, ASF-Treetops Campsite

Lindsay Ferguson, District Personnel Committee Member, *South Western District*

Bill Hewett, District Personnel Committee Member, *South Western District*

Richard Jowett, PGL, *13th Malvern*

Kylie Kilpatrick, PJSL, *1st Ballam Park*

Damien Kuzek, GL, *Narre Warren*

Tim Landells, Group Rostered Parent, *Heany Park*

Sheron Lau, AJSL, *1st Mont Albert*

John Lauder, ASL, *1st Irymple*

Paul Leonard, ASF-Sherbrooke Forest

James Lord, Group Treasurer, *1st Maroondah*

Linda Lovelace, ACSL, *1st Doncaster East*

Justin Mercer, AJSL, *1st Churchill*

Peter Miles, CSL, *1st Drysdale*

Tim Muston, ACSL, *1st Gisborne*

Karyn Palmer, AVL, *3rd Ringwood East*

Belinda Slinger, AVL, *2nd Korumburra*

Shane Strong, Adult Helper, *1st Edithvale*

Erin Verberne, AJSL, *3rd Ringwood East*

Liz Webster, Group Rostered Parent, *1st Eastern Park*



After a lot of hard work and training, I am proud and honored to have been presented The Wood Badge. Through the process I learnt skills that have enabled me to be a better Joey Scout Leader and met wonderful people who have become lifelong friends! I could not have done it without the support of the other Leaders from the Group and of course my whole Scouting family. You have been amazing and thank you for giving up your time with family and for all the hard work you put in every weekend to make us better Leaders within Scouts.

Maria Christofilopoulos is a Joey Scout Leader at 9th Oakleigh.



1st Hoppers Crossing

Carl from 1st Hoppers Crossing celebrated receiving his Australian Scout Medallion with his cousins who are all in Scouts too. All of their parents also met through Scouting and their grandmother has been a member for 40 years.



5th Northcote

Joeys from 5th Northcote learnt some Kung Fu fighting to help protect themselves from coughs and colds.



1st Nunawading

Lachie, a Scout from 1st Nunawading put what he had learnt at Scouts to the test when the family dog, Indy, chewed through a power cord. Poor Indy couldn't release her bite so Lachie jumped into action and quickly unplugged the cord. The Group have now awarded him 'The Order of the Electric Pooch' medallion.



1st Upwey

Upwey recently held its annual township billy cart races. Cub Scouts Matilda, Mani and Taylor had an awesome time racing their billy carts with Leader Eric taking position as the race start martial.



Annika and her brother Riley from 1st Upwey Cub Pack visited Kallista Joey Mob to teach the Joeys finger knitting. A great example of youth leading!



1st Inverloch

1st Inverloch Joeys paid a visit to South Gippsland Conservation Society to learn about Koala conservation and how they can do their bit for the environment.



Heathmont

Cubs from Heathmont Scout Group visited the Ambulance museum where the learnt all about the history of some of our first responders and even got to check out some of the equipment and its changes over time.

Hoadley Hide @ Home - a Virtual Challenge

Normally at Easter, the Hoadley Hide team would be running a competition hiking and initiative course for well over 100 Venturers in a Victorian forest. Many Venturers have come to rely on this event to achieve their initiative badge.

With social distancing rules, the Hide team, led by Hide Chief Dirk Arends, and with support from the Victorian Venturer Council, accepted this as a challenge and created a world first Virtual Initiative Course over Easter.

It was such a success, the HH team has run the course over the last four weekends, and well over 250 Venturers have taken part, earning their Initiative badge and being able to still take part in an state-wide Venturer event. As it was all online, we've also had Venturers take part from WA, QLD, NSW, NT and SA.

Registered Venturers were emailed nine "stunts" they would normally do on a Hoadley Hide, but could be done at home using materials they had on hand. These included navigation and route planning, catapult construction, first aid, one-pot cooking, problem solving and code breaking (decoding a

Be a Scout

I am genuinely excited by the creativity and innovation surrounding our latest marketing initiative which we have called Be A Scout.

A gifted and talented team have been working hard to identify a contemporary persona and brand. We have come up with a strategy to drive interest both within and, more importantly externally to attract prospective Scouts.

Please look out for ways to get involved and to share the energy and excitement of this campaign as we promote the value of being a Scout to our communities. #BEASCOUT.



message in Auslan sign language). Venturers also had to walk more than 6 kms over the weekend (as part of regular exercise allowed under restrictions).

Venturers took photos and videos and submitted them online for assessment.

The team also ran a virtual "Venturer Overnight Camp" on Saturday night, where Venturers were able to chat together and take part in online games using Discord (an online text, voice, and video chat platform)

Well done to Dirk and his team! You can see some of the highlights on the Hoadley Hide Facebook page facebook.com/hoadleyhide.



Being our best selves

This can be a frustrating and trying time for many of us. Remember to bring your best self to the program and lead by example.

Now that we are in a rhythm of Scouting at Home it might be timely to take stock and check in on anyone who is not participating. It's easy for people to fall off the radar when we are not greeting each other in person and as an inclusive Scouting community, let us all get on the front foot to make sure we look after each other.

If you know someone who is struggling, reach out to them and offer support or just someone to chat to. If you are struggling, reach out and talk to someone about it.

If you or anyone you know is struggling in these difficult times reach out to Beyond Blue at www.beyondblue.org.au

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Beyond All Limits Kangaree 2020

By JAMES WARREN
We did it! On March 7 2020, 1838 people rolled into Lardner Park, near Drouin, on 33 buses from across Victoria.

Kangaree 6 - Beyond All Limits truly lived up to its name. The amazing team of Leaders, Rovers, Venturers and Scout helpers have made this Kangaree one of firsts in many cases.

For the first time Kangaree was run across an amazing two nights and three days, filled with bucket loads of fun, games, eating and partying!

We had 1126 Joey Scouts attending - this was Victoria's biggest Kangaree yet! It was incredible to see the 971 participants who took on the additional challenge of camping out for the weekend!

Over three fun-packed days Joey Scouts soared through space, ran away to the circus and tried Cubbing.

With the assistance of 702 Scouts, Venturers, Rovers, Leaders and Adult Helpers they also raced through the Joey Scout Grand Prix and visited the wonderful world of Dr Seuss and archery where they could test their brains and take aim.

Joey Scouts also slid their way through fun and physical challenges, and all did it with a smile.

James Warren was Kangaree Chief Director and is Assistant Joey Scout Leader at 1st Oak Park.



9th Oakleigh

Joey Scouts from 9th Oakleigh went on an exciting excursion to learn about safety on trains with some help from Protective Service Officers Craig and Eric. They travelled all the way to Lynbrook and back and lots of fun was had by all!



1st Riddells Creek

1st Riddells Creek Cub Scouts celebrated Founder's Day by holding our first Pack Council for 2020 at Mount Macedon. We went straight to the tearooms, ordered milkshakes and discussed ideas for upcoming camps and events. To help aid digestion, we decided to walk out to the Memorial Cross with a stop at the Major Mitchell Lookout along the way. Here we used our powers of observation and knowledge of the area to identify the various landmarks that we could see. This view was voted the highlight of our Pack Council.

At the Memorial Cross we sat down and our Leaders shared with us the next stage of progression to the new program and signed up for PC4!



2nd Werribee

Cooper from 2nd Werribee recently received his Grey Wolf Award, congratulations Cooper!



1st New Gisborne

1st New Gisborne Cub Scouts held their first Pack Council at a local cafe, which was fun not only because it was the first time to enjoy a Pack Council with milk shakes, but the challenge was accepted by Cubs to come up with some out-of-the-box ideas on where we could hold our next Pack Councils. They also took the time to enter the PC4 Commissioners Challenge.

The highlight of the day had to be the exciting decision-making of who to nominate for Sixer and Second for our newly formed fourth Six. Either that or the mad dash for home in pelting rain which came down just as we were leaving!

Scouts

Wet and wild with Whitehorse

By **PAUL DE ARAUGO**

Whitehorse District really enjoys canoeing!

Our District program included two Level 1 canoeing training courses in February where we managed to get 50 odd Scouts and two new Leaders qualified to paddle.

Many thanks to Ian Gibson (from the Scout Paddling Team), and his team, for giving up two weekends to train our Scouts.

The actual training consisted of a two-day course on the Yarra river at Jumping Creek. This is a really fun weekend – learning by doing. On day one all

instruction is given on the water, learning

the various strokes and safety rescue (turning over your canoe and then learning how to empty it, get it upright and get back into it while in the river).

Day two is even better, as Scouts get to apply what they learnt on day one by paddling down river from Jumping Creek to Warrandyte, including a few rapids which are lots of fun.

Now that our Scouts had successfully achieved their Level 1 canoeing, we thought it was important that we got to further practise our skills and have fun on the water. Therefore we arranged two weekends paddling down the Murray River from Cobram to Tocumwal (about 29km by river). We left Melbourne on Friday night and travelled up to Cobram (thanks to Cobram Scout Troop for letting us stay in their hall on Friday night and for storing our canoes) until the second group arrived the following weekend.

On each journey we set off early Saturday morning and paddled down the Murray. The weather was perfect for paddling, sunny and around 26C and the water was warm. We stopped on one of

the many beaches for lunch and then pulled into another beach at around 3 pm and set up our camp. Hike cooking on Trangias and a great campfire. At night the stars in the sky were so bright and plentiful.

After breakfast we packed up camp and headed down river for Tocumwal.

It was a great adventure and we will all look at doing many more by river.

Paul De Araugo is Scout Commissioner for Mount Dandenong Region.



Food

Our shopping list included:

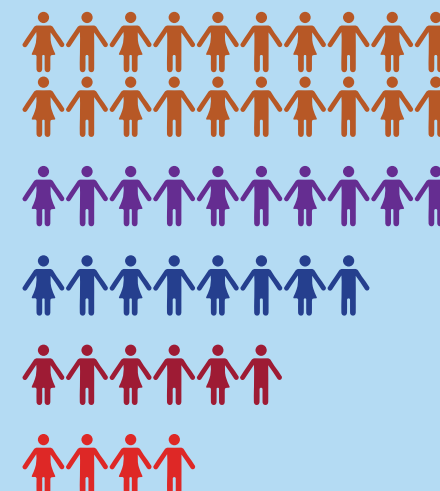
- 146 kg chocolate cake
- 10,575 apples, bananas, peaches
- 2600 hamburgers
- 1920 ice cream sandwiches which filled an entire chest freezer
- 943 litres of milk – nearly one cubic metre of milk, or a tonne
- 752 loaves of bread
- 4520 pikelets

Plus:

- Our food bill was \$87,000
- We looked after 262 people with modified diets
- Thanks to the 62 volunteers on the Catering team

Breakdown

- 1126 Joey Scouts
- 418 Leaders
- 171 Adult Helpers
- 89 Venturers/Scouts
- 23 Rovers



What was your favourite part of Kangaree?



Abby - Cockatoo
The Mario activity.



Charlie - 1st Gembrook
The bouncy balls cause we got to do lots of laps on the balls.



James - 1st Cobden
The rock climbing was my favorite part.



Claire - 1st Eltham
The rockets because I have never shot a rocket from a pole before.





Arlo - West Kalista
The bouncy castle.



Emily - 1st Casey
The slide with the floaties.



Fletcher - 9th Brunswick
Making boats, because it's
creative and making new friends.



Poppy - Viewbank
I loved spending time
with all my friends.



Ethan - 1st Cobden
Going down the
waterslide!



Cubs Leadership



By MICHAEL WONG

This year Scouts Victoria introduced Participate, Assist and Lead, an integral part of Milestones and the Achievement Pathways with each component having a significant role and influence on our Scouting.

Participate in particular really describes the bottom line "must have" for Scouts Victoria. If Scouts Victoria is to continue its record 13 years of growth, then we need to offer a program that Cub Scouts will want to actively participate in. A program that reflects what they want to do is crucial.

By assisting another Cub Scout or Leader, Cubs develop confidence and communication skills, and start to formulate an idea of their own leadership skills and style. These skills develop as they progress through the Pack.

Leading is the Do> and provides Cubs leadership opportunities within a friendly environment all the while supported by adults. The Cub is able to practice the skills and relationship interactions they observed when assisting.

As Leaders, we also participate, assist and lead within Scouting. In fact we develop our leadership skills in very much the same way as the Cubs. When we participate in a meeting or activity, assist someone else or lead an activity we enhance our leadership skills.

The COVID-19 crisis requires strong leadership in everything we do. From our governments providing direction and guidance, to our own families who need support and reassurance. Likewise, our youth members and their families are looking to us, their Leaders for strong leadership in their Scouting world, to offer Scouting as a positive during these difficult times.

What is leadership when applied in our current environment? Do we have those leadership qualities that will make a difference for our Cub scouts?

Here are 10 ways we can define leadership.

Vision

Leading means having a vision and sharing it with others. It means

articulating what you are wanting to achieve such as meeting online for 30 minutes every week, to continue the Cubs opportunity to achieve awards, to continue the Pack Councils but just in a different way. By sharing your vision, your plans you will inspire the Pack to go on the journey with you.

Motivation

Leading is not about talking and giving orders but rather motivating others to participate in order to achieve your vision. You need to ask questions of your Cubs and Leaders, let them talk and listen and understand their needs. Once you understand their needs you can create the environment for the Cubs to want to participate in Scouting.

Serving as a leader

Serving as a leader means that you're there to support the Pack. The Pack needs to feel that they have your support, they have your recognition for their efforts and that you're upholding the Pack Code. Continue to provide positive feedback and recognise achievements through badge work.

Empathy

A good leader is one that has the ability to understand and share the feelings of their Pack. Place yourselves in the shoes of the Cubs to understand how they're feeling, understand their concerns. Then you can address the problems or concerns. Don't forget your leadership team. Acknowledge the difficulties that online Scouting presents but focus on the positives and opportunities.

Creativity

One of our Challenge Areas. Good leaders are able to create an environment that encourages all Cubs to develop their skills and imagination. Embrace the Pack's suggestions for the program or different ways to present the weekly program. Offer encouragement and guidance. Be prepared to think outside the square and question the paradigm. How we improve on the way we participate in Scouting.

Thoroughness

Great outcomes are possible if we plan with attention to detail, listen to, understand and guide our Cubs. As a Leader we are ultimately responsible

for any outcome. However effective communication, time and resources all contribute to achieving our vision. As a Leader we don't have all the answers. Seek contributions from the Cubs and the leadership team.

Managing as a Leader

A Leader must be at the forefront to lead and guide the Pack but they also need to know when to step back and let the Pack and other Leaders take the initiative. Don't micro manage, recognise that our program is about giving our Cubs the opportunity to develop their leadership skills. Have the confidence and courage to give them a go.

Team building

True leadership is about working in a team to reach a common goal and team aware leaders lead by example, maintain and project a positive attitude, and take responsibility when something goes wrong. Do you lead the Pack and your leadership team by example?

Decisiveness

Strong leadership requires confidence in decision making, the courage to accept responsibility and rectify a wrong and seek opportunities. Our Cub Scouts look to us for decisive leadership.

Review>

True leadership seeks continuous improvement and our Review> process provides the environment for the Cubs to recognise opportunities for improvement. Make use of the Review> thumb ball and encourage the Cubs to offer their suggestions for improvement.

Pack leadership is not something we are born with or something that we actively go out to seek. But more than ever the type of leader we are, the way we present our leadership and the outcomes of our leadership will have a lasting impact on our Cub Scouts.

Be confident in your leadership.

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

Joeys

Hopping online!



By TROY KENWARD

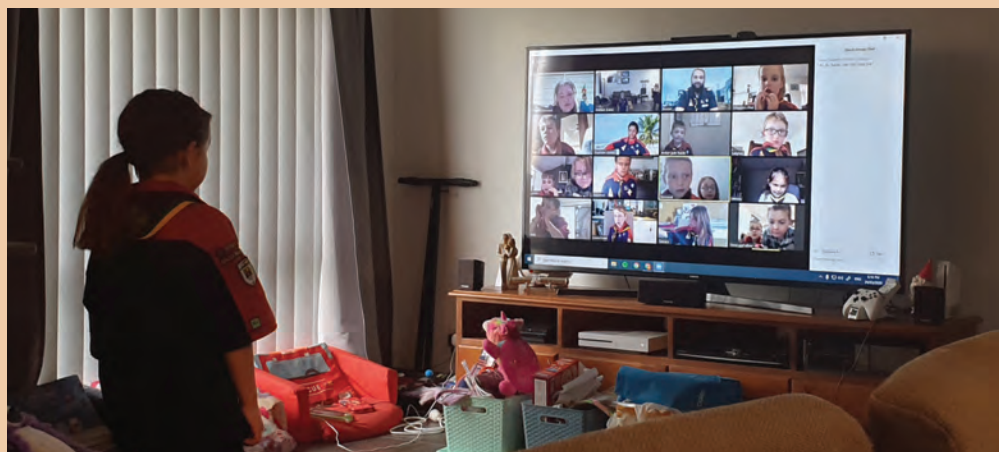
With the current 'social distancing' measures in place, most Groups by now have either moved, or are planning to move to the internet to host Mob nights. Well done all for being so flexible and ensuring that Scouting continues! Our new challenge though, is to ensure we continue to deliver quality and engaging programming in this new environment.

For our Mob's first online meeting, our aim was to keep the program energetic and easy for all to take part in. We decided to keep the first night's program to 40 minutes and to loosely stick to the same format that the Joeys Scouts would be used to on a regular Mob Night.

Sixteen excited and slightly nervous Joey Scouts, along with four Cub Scout siblings joined our three Joey Scout Leaders in the Zoom meeting.

Our first night's program included

- Opening HOP
- Rules for online meetings (manners and explained how it will work)
- Simon Says
- Scavenger Hunt around your home (Joeys asked to locate common items around their house and bring them back to the camera eg. 5c coin, sunglasses etc) this was a HUGE success!
- Introduce your pet to the Mob (or tell us about your favourite animal) we even met a pet Chicken named "Bacon"
- Where the wind blows game
- Close and good night



This program served as the perfect ice-breaker for online Mob nights. The Joeys quickly forgot that we were connected online and settled in very well.

So now that the Joeys had an idea what these changes mean, for our second week, we ran a Mob Council (and some games) to have our Mob plan out the term. They certainly did not disappoint and had so many amazing ideas! Science, the solar system, dance party, Lego building, hobby night, giants, singing and a trip to the park were all just some of their nights for the term.

The Lego night was run the very next week and was nothing short of amazing! Biggest tower, make an animal and tell us all about it and so much more fun had by all.

Here are a few tips from my own experience.

- Test your setup before the night, become familiar with the software and settings. Our Scouting community has shared skills beyond belief, and you will find others more than ready to assist with your setup.

- If you are completely uncomfortable running an online session, approach another Mob about joining their night. A fantastic way to upskill and to start on your Mob's Buddy badge.
- Mute is your best friend. You may find it very handy to mute the overly boisterous so all can join in and hear each other.
- Have a Leader led night for your first meeting so the Joeys can become comfortable, then the next week a Mob Council so they can shower you with their ideas.
- Know your Joey Scouts. This is very new to most Leaders and youth. See how they react, what works, what doesn't and be ready to switch to a different activity if you can tell you are losing their attention.
- Plan>Do>Review>. Both with the youth and then later with your other Leaders.
- Have fun and don't overthink, simple can be amazingly brilliant!

So, as I head off now to prepare for our fourth online Mob night, I wish you all the best. We are in very unique times, but we are also part of an amazing movement that B-P founded to adapt as needed and to always "Be Prepared" to do our best for the youth and other Leaders that we support. This is one of the times that they need us the most.

Troy Kenward is the Group Leader at 1st Cranbourne.



Thanks from James

Like all major events, Kangaree 6 required a strong, hardworking team to run the event. A huge thanks to all the Leaders, Scouts, Venturers, Rovers and Adult Helpers for your role in creating lifelong memories for more than 1100 Joey Scouts. Special thanks to:

- Jacqui Day and the wonderful Administration team
- David Collins and the spectacular Activity Teams
- Mike Graham for making sure our bills were paid
- Josh Cashill and the awesome Sites and Services team
- Bron Mepstead and the amazing Welfare and First Aid teams for their hard work and dedication
- Cheryl Borg and the amazing Youth Services Team (encompassing Scouts, Venturers and Rovers from across the State)
- Peter Duckworth for his amazing skills in coordinating everyone's safe arrival and departure from Kangaree.
- Jess Rutherford and her remarkable catering team who worked tirelessly to ensure that 1800+ people had the fuel to continue on in their adventures.
- Michelle Strachan and the Kangaree Media team for capturing the lifelong memories created at Kangaree 6.
- To the 'Scouts Victoria Police Scouters' and the 'Scouts Victoria Fire & Emergency Management' team for their tireless work in ensuring that our site was safe.
- Sue Humber and the amazing State Joey Scout Council for their abundance of support prior to and during the event.
- Narelle Lowdell, my outstanding Assistant Director, for all of her support and hard work in ensuring that Kangaree 6 went Beyond All Limits!

Photos: Tia Kirby, Stephanie Rosicka, Leo Paulsen, Rick Bradley, Michelle Strachen and Don Leeson.



Lila - Viewbank
All the entertainment!



Jade - 1st Noorat
Going on the bouncy castle.



Keshara - 1st Wallan Wallan
The space activity because we played with lightsabers.



Ethan - 1st Mulgrave
Throwing wet sponges at each other and sleeping in a tent with all my Joey friends.



Izabel - 1st Kilmore
Making the Bagheera and Baloo mask and clown school at Quokkas Circus.





Scouting at Home

1st Bentleigh

5th Brunswick Cubs working on their Sydney Bridge Challenge.

Even the adults are getting involved with the training team now holding courses online.

Taavi from 5th Brunswick is keeping busy by posing letters to his Leaders.

Alicia, a Cub from Norlane West working on her gardening badge.

2nd Glen Waverley

Baden-Powell Park

1st City of Camberwell

5th Brunswick Cubs working on their Sydney Bridge Challenge.

1st Kew Joeys celebrated Harmony Day with the help of their parents.

Zoe from 1st Croydon Hills was awarded her Australian Scout Medallion.

Hampton

1st Croydon Hills Cub Pack invested four new members.

Baden-Powell Park

Saturday Night Party

After so many activities going on through the day you'd think everyone would be exhausted... well not at AG! The night entertainment team put on a neon disco with an amazing party vibe! People had covered themselves from head to toe in their fluoro gear with fluoro face paint provided to people getting to the party early enough.

Service and thanks

After the whole weekend was said and done Venturers went home on much quieter journeys than their arrivals. The AG weekend went off as another successful event on the Victorian Venturing calendar and could not have been done without all of the Rovers, Leaders and special activities suppliers who came together to make a fun weekend.

And lastly the dedicated committee who put in months of hard work every year to make sure each year is better than the last.

Alex Kovacs is an Assistant Group Leader at 1st Traralgon.



Australia's largest Venturer event

By ALEX KOVACS

Every year on the third weekend of April hundreds of Venturers and Scouts descend upon Lardner Park, an hour east of Melbourne, near Warragul in Gippsland. As the name suggests, Anything Goes - commonly referred to as AG - is all about the freedom it affords its attendees and is one of the most anticipated events on the Venturer calendar with more than 1600 Venturers, Scouts, Rovers, and Leaders turning up for the weekend.

Onsite Activities

One of the best parts about AG is all of the activities that run around the clock which gives everyone the chance to do what they want, when they want. Just some of the different activities that people could do around the site were archery, an inflatable obstacles, bungee trampoline, all night movies, pool tables, roller blading and Ripsticking, basketball, percussion workshops, gaming consoles, foosball tables, pinball, table tennis, jelly wrestling, petting zoo, parkour, and so much more (we don't want to take up the whole page with a list of activities so just check out the pictures!). And if for some reason none of those were of interest, people they made their own fun too!

Festival Area

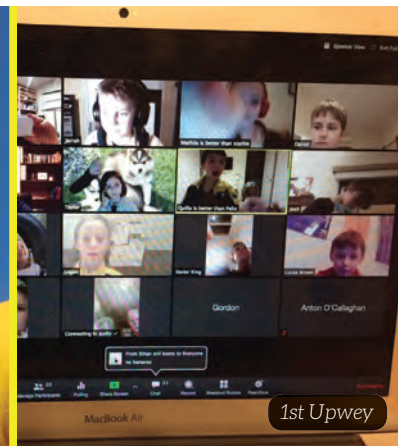
A special feature of this year's AG was the introduction of a new festival space set up outside the Baw Baw Pavillion. The festival space was there to highlight all of the other awesome opportunities available to Venturers like Armstrong 500, BARCOM, OzVenture and the Victorian Venturer Council. The space was also dominated by the teams from Rovers who were highlighting all of the great opportunities available after Venturers. We also had the team from Latrobe Youth Space come in to run tie-dying and a dunk tank.

Offsite Activities

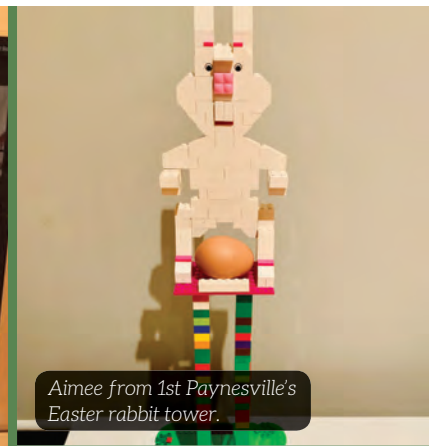
If you weren't into spending your whole day just hanging around camp you would have been out experiencing some great activities in the Gippsland region. You could have been off on a horse ride, doing flips at Bounce, four-wheel-driving, sea kayaking, scuba diving, mountain biking, taking the high ropes course challenge or even going for a helicopter ride!



May 2020 Australian Scout



1st Upwey



Aimee from 1st Paynesville's Easter rabbit tower.



1st Doncaster East Cubs went on a trip to Africa!

How one Group has coped It's Scouting, but not as we knew it!

By JEN JESKE

Wow! The past month of Scouting has been challenging, but at Caroline Springs Scout Group we've embraced the opportunity to deliver our Scouting programs in new ways.

Primarily, we've focussed on engaging our youth and showing them that we were still Scouting after their last week of term Section meetings were cancelled. Our Joey Leaders dropped off sidewalk chalk to all Joeys' mailboxes and asked them to spread happiness by joining the Rainbow Project. Our Cubs, Scouts, Venturers and Rovers were quick to organise Zoom meetings so they could plan a new Term 2 program, all with great success! Our Leaders got in on the Zoom action and had our first virtual Group Council including our first e-investiture of our newest Joey Leader, Goanna. It was a lot of fun and we'll continue with e-investitures for youth in Term 2.

We've also been setting challenges on our Facebook pages: make a flagpole with flag, video yourself washing your hands correctly, sign your name in AUSLAN, and daily Lego challenges for the creative at heart. The GLs have challenged the Cubs and Scouts to keep earning badges by offering a major prize for the youth who earns the most challenge/proficiency badges, and once earned, all badges will be mailed out and acknowledged at the Section meetings.

Our Term 2 programs are set with Zoom meetings in place of our Section nights, with some having tasks set to do before the meeting and others are using interactive platforms such as Kahoot! Our Venturers have planned an Isolation Formal Dinner, and our Cubs are working on a Netflix Party. We've also been able to include programs we've found difficult in face-to-face programming like pet nights, and the Joey Mob Council's request to fly

around the world is far easier to organise in the virtual world! Our Patrols have met as Patrols to plan activities - always with two Leaders in the Zoom, and our Pack Council helped Akela with ideas for a virtual Pack camp in the backyard. The whole Group though is feeling the loss of important events like Anzac Day ceremonies and Stradbroke Cup, but the youth figured out ways to acknowledge our veterans and are preparing for Straddy next year.

As our Leaders and youth adapted to e-Scouting, our GLs turned our focus to the welfare of all: our Leaders, youth and their families. Like the general community our Group community has faced job loss, indefinite stand downs, financial concerns, mental health issues, youth and families at risk, and the adjustments to early school holidays and social distancing. We've heavily used our Facebook and Twitter accounts to reach out to our Scout community, asking for mental health check-ins with follow up calls where needed. We've added empathetic but positive posts with close moni-



toring and moderation, as well as calling at-risk families offering conversation and support. We've also had to prioritise CareMonkey updates as our primary and safest program communication tool.

We're just starting on this virtual Scouting road and a long road it may be. We have many uncertainties around census and finances, but we have always believed if we can get the programs right, the rest is details. COVID, we hear your challenge and accept. We will socially distance to stop the curve and Scout at Home. But we will not be mentally isolated because we are Scouts.

Jen Jeske is Assistant Group Leader at 1st Caroline Springs.





To gain the Crime Prevention badge you must complete one task from each of A, B and C.

A - Investigate

Investigate and present a report on three crime prevention activities undertaken by the police AND investigate and present a report addressing at least two of the following questions:

What is Neighbourhood Watch and how do the groups help prevent crime?

Make a list of items of value in your house and explain why you should engrave them.

Why is it important to report crimes to Police?

B - Skill

1. Engrave all items of value in your home with your surname and parent's licence numbers, with the assistance of one of your parents.
2. Design a proforma and list all items of value in your home detailing serial numbers, colours, make, models, and age of the items.
3. Enrol your family in Neighbourhood Watch or similar organisation as a

means of improving your neighborhood's safety.

C - Activity

1. Investigate and compile a list of people or organisations who can provide engravers to assist the rest of the Troop to engrave items of value at home (try Police Stations, Neighbourhood Watch etc).
2. Arrange for a member of the executive in your local Neighbourhood Watch group (or a Police Officer) to attend to talk to a group of Scouts about preventing crime in the local area.
3. Organise and run a security audit with your patrol and identify positive and negative issues at and around your den. If there are any ways you can improve security, make a list of suggestions for your Leader.



The Cub Scout Neighborhood Watch Badge.



The Scout Crime Prevention Badge.

Seven Seas Plenty Valley Region Gathering

By ALAN HARDING

Over the March long weekend 1000 members across Plenty Valley Region went camping at Mafeking Rover Park for an all-Section camp – the Seven Seas Region Gathering. We had Joeys, Cubs, Scouts, Venturer and Rovers in attendance along with many Leaders and parent helpers.

With Groups arriving Friday night, setting up their Group camp sites, it was great to see youth members across the Group laying out the campsite with the assistance of Leaders.

With programs starting Saturday afternoon and continuing all weekend,



it was a hive of activities with opportunities for youth members to participate in crate stacking, aerial runway, abseiling, archery, axe throwing, ballistas, water slide, climbing tower, four wheel driving, hot laps, escape room and many more...

Plus we also had cup cake decorating for the 10th birthday celebration for the Region where the Joey Scouts did an amazing job!

Saturday night the Disco was set up for all members to dance the night away! Some of the Leaders also joined in!

The highlight for myself as Region Commissioner of Plenty Valley, was when I was walking around the campsite and came across the Joey Scouts on Monday morning at the top of Mount Quafftumbula after they had camped for three nights in tents and then hiked up the mountain as their activity for the day!! The have sooooo much energy - great job, Joeys!

I am proud to be a Leader in Scouting and it is events like this that remind us why we are a Scout! And the moment that this all hits home is when you have 1000



members chant your name at the closing ceremony! WOW and thanks, Plenty Valley Region!

This Gathering is something that Plenty Valley Region does every three years, so all members are looking forward to our next Gathering in March 2023. What will the theme be?

Alan Harding is Assistant Chief Commissioner – Development, and was until recently Region Commissioner for Plenty Valley Region.



Keeping Safe

A safe community is important to everyone. There's a lot of things we can do to make sure ourselves and our belongings stay safe and many of them are common sense...but that doesn't mean we're all aware and taking action where we can. Have a look at this checklist, see what you and your family know, are doing and what you might put in place in the future!

- Do you know what telephone number to ring if when there has been an accident or incident? For emergencies call 000, to report non-urgent crimes and events call the Police Assistance Line 131 444 or to anonymously report a crime or provide information you can call Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000
- Do you know where your local Police Station is? While usually the Police are coming to you in an emergency, you never know when you might need to pay them a visit.
- Are you aware of your surroundings while out and about? Listening to a great song and blocking out the hustle and bustle when out for a walk is nice, but leaving one headphone out so you can still hear noises
- Is your home secure? Make sure all windows and doors have effective locks and that you use them!
- Doors and windows all locked but want to do more? You could install a home security system, start small or go big with alarms, cameras... maybe even roaming security guards...or just some outdoor lights.
- Can you keep track of your valuables? Label your items with something identifying like your name, phone number or licence number. This could be done with a label maker, marker or engraver. Remember, the more permanent the better.
- Do you have a record of your valuables? Keep a list somewhere safe of what items you own and their value. You could do this on a computer but remember this is a valuable too so keep a backup elsewhere. Photos of your items are helpful too.
- Leaving valuable items in your car? Make sure they're out of sight or take them with you and of course, make sure it's locked! Assuming nobody would bother is asking for trouble.
- Want to make sure your car is safe too? Beyond ensuring it's locked, you could also install an

around you is an important part of staying safe.

immobiliser, battery isolator or car alarm.

- Got a desirable number plate? Or one that's easy to remove? Install some anti-theft screws. These are often installed by Police or Neighbourhood Watch members at various events. Keep an eye out for them as they could be very useful!
- Be aware of risk! Just like we do risk management plans for Scouting events etc, consider the risks involved in your actions and how you could avoid that risk. It's always better to be safe than sorry!

Want to incorporate safety into your program? Why not have a discussion about how to stay safe. Ask youth to provide their thoughts about safety and any actions they might take to stay safe. Turn these ideas into posters and put them around the hall.

You could also organise a night with local Police members, CFA or SES volunteers, paramedics or with Neighbourhood Watch. One Pack had a CSI Night - Cub Scout Investigators!

For incentive, Cubs can earn their Neighbourhood Watch Badge and Scouts have the Crime Prevention Proficiency Badge. All of the activities listed on this page may be used for parts of these badges.

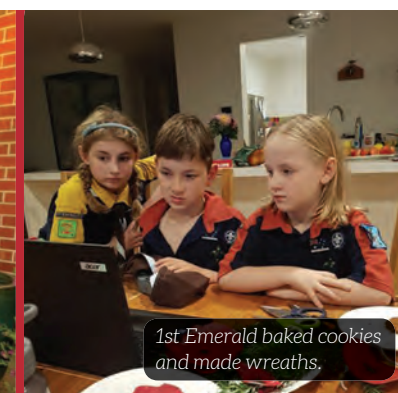
All of the ideas here are also applicable to your hall. This makes for two simple programs. As part of Scouting at Home, your Joeys, Cubs and Scouts can do all of the home-based activities easily. Once you get back to hall nights, you can do the same for the hall. Make sure to draw on what they learned at home. Apart from building on their learning, this also fosters the idea of us all being one community.

Anzac Day

This year Scouts Victoria's members commemorated Anzac Day a little differently holding services at home with their families.



Stephen - Beaconsfield



1st Emerald baked cookies and made wreaths.



Penny & Sally - 1st Upwey



1st Strathfieldsaye



Emma - 2nd Glen Waverley



Georgia - 1st Grovedale



Samihan - Point Cook



Williams Scout Group



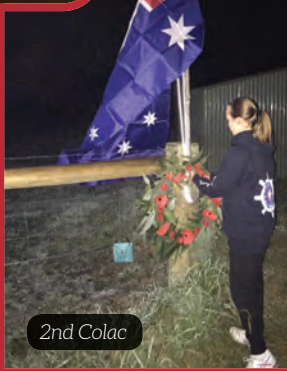
1st Bacchus Marsh



1st Ballam Park



2nd Glen Waverley



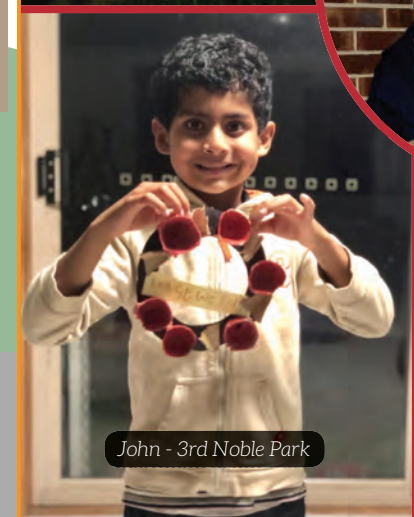
2nd Colac



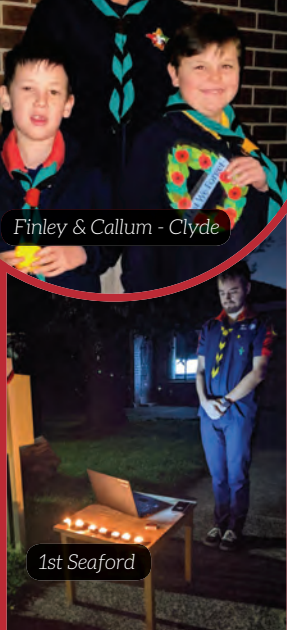
Bairnesdale



Finley & Callum - Clyde



John - 3rd Noble Park



1st Seaford



Daniel & Hunter - 1st Seymour



Alexander - Clyde



1st Chelsea Heights



The new Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell lives in Melbourne thanks to a beer one night after Rovers

Australia's Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell

By **ANDREW TAYLOR**

From his childhood and Cubs in southern Rhodesia (Zimbabwe), to schooling and Scouts in England, to marrying and raising a family in Melbourne, life has been quite a journey for the latest Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell, the 4th Baron Baden-Powell.

Michael Baden-Powell, as Victorian Scouting friends know him, still lives close to the Camberwell Scout hall where his wife Joan, the Lady Baden-Powell, was a Cub Leader, and where their three sons were Cubs and Scouts.

But the death in December 2019 of his older brother Robert, the 3rd Baron Baden-Powell, means he now inherits the titles first bestowed upon their grandfather, the Founder of Scouting.

Michael's Scouting journey spans three continents. He was invested as a young Cub Scout in Rhodesia, where he loved being out in the bush: "It was true bush, similar to what we have here. On one

occasion we spent the night in a hut we had built. We had to make a proper fireplace, put a fire together, then boil our water in a billy."

In 1947 Michael's family moved to England. He joined the school Scout Troop at Pierrepont House in Surrey. This was an independent school for boys in Surrey, founded in 1947 by its first headmaster, Thomas Joyce Parry, known to students as "Major Parry". The school's houses were named after battles (eg Agincourt, Trafalgar, and Waterloo) and the school cadet corps was the heart of the school's ethos. The school, which closed in 1993, counts Michael Baden-Powell among its famous alumni.

A favourite memory is when members of the Army Cadet corps were dropped by truck in a desolate part of the Brecon district of Wales. They had 24 hours to get back to their main base camp – and dinner.

Michael recalls: "All we had was 24-hour rations, the clothes we stood in, an ordnance survey map, and a prismatic compass.

I went with my cousin, Robin Clay, and out of all the fellows in the group we were the only two that arrived back on time thanks to our Scout training."

When the Commanding Officer queried where they had slept, Michael showed him on the map. Major Parry insisted on driving them there. He refused to believe them until they pointed out that he was standing on the turf which covered the ashes of the previous night's fire.

"There was no question in my mind: it was what we learned from Scouting that pulled us through. I was probably 12 at the time."

Later in England he was a Rover and Assistant Scout Leader. His Wood Badge was presented by the legendary John Thurman, warden of Gilwell Park, near London.

Meeting Michael B-P at B-P House

And then came the first of two 'sliding doors' moments that would change the course of Michael's life.

The International Scout Club which met every Thursday in the library at B-P house in London, was a welcoming station for visitors from Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and more.

Michael recalls: "We'd just had dinner when the warden said 'We've got two young Australian girls who have just got off the boat this morning. Could you go downstairs and make them welcome?'"

So Michael met Joan Berryman: "I was a Cub Leader prior to meeting Michael. I joined because of my brothers. They were in 16th Camberwell which then became 4th Camberwell Central."

Michael was also on the committee of the Royal Commonwealth Society, then considered to be the social club of London, which was organising an event with Princess Alexandra as guest of honour. "So I spoke to Joan and said 'Would you like to meet Princess Alexandra? And it would be nice to have a partner.'"

Says Joan: "I suppose this was our first date!"



Michael and Joan at their home in Melbourne.

Thoughts from our fantastic youth Sections:

Joey Scouts

I love Joey Scouts. We do lots of stuff we want to do. We have made robots, been to the beach, made some kites and want to go canoeing. We learnt about camping and went to a big camp (Kangaree).

Ryan 6, Joey Scout - 1st Somerville



I think up things that I want to do or learn about, we put our ideas on a board, and then we plan and do them.

Jasper 7, Joey Scout - 1st Somerville



Cub Scouts

The new program let the Cubs have more decision on what they would do. The new challenge areas make it easier to achieve some goals. There was more say in how activities work on camp. It has helped me become a better leader as there is a "ladder"

to guide you. I enjoy people looking up to you as a leader. The new program is better at introducing new activities.

Eleanor, Cub Scout - 1st North Balwyn



Scouts

We started the new program in Term 4, 2019. It has been challenging moving across to the new system's terminology, but I find the new program is more flexible and more applicable to the current times. Participate, assist and lead is a great framework to get all the members of your Patrol/Unit to get involved in an activity. As a Patrol Leader I find that assist is a great way to make use of your Patrol members, for the betterment of everyone, ensuring that you get the whole group involved. The challenge areas have also provided a great framework. Brainstorming the ideas then organising them into the challenge areas ensures a diverse range of activities for the whole year. It means that we can design activities around each Patrol member's interests and capabilities allowing them to lead an activity where they have a high level of proficiency.

Oliver, Scout PL - 1st North Balwyn



Venturers

The most memorable part of completing my Queen's Scout under the New Program achievement pathway was the planning, leading and completion of my Adventurous Journey to Wilsons Promontory. The four days had us hiking in magnificent, varied scenery, down slippery slopes, through cold river crossings, along board walks, cliffs and beaches. While camping we had regular visits from the local wildlife, particularly at meal times.

It was an awesome experience with lots of fun and laughter in a beautiful place. I learnt a lot about hike planning, but the best part was getting to see Wilsons Prom, a place I had never been to before.

Hayden Swift, Venturer - 1st Hurstbridge



Rovers and OAS

For my Vertical Outdoor Adventure Skills (OAS) I ran a beginner abseiling day, aimed at the younger Sections. On this day we focused on Youth Leading/Adult Supporting.

The entire day was organised and run by myself, as a Rover, and provided opportunities for the younger youth members to not only learn new skills but those who had prior knowledge were able to share their skills with the others. Prior to the activity youth members also provided ideas for what they wanted to learn and how they'd like to do so. After the activity we got feedback from the participants to conduct a review.

On this day many younger youth members were signed off on Stage 1 and/or 2 Vertical, and I was signed off on Stage 7 Abseiling.

Jacinta Swift, Lasseter Rover Crew





One program One continuous journey



Jacinta Swift at the abseiling course she organised and ran.

By JOHN KERR

Youth develop skills along the journey. The journey is about personal growth. By youth leading the program and its activities, youth discover adventure, create their own path, explore the unknown, look wide and adventure beyond the horizon.

Youth learn by doing rather than being told. Youth and adults are using the Plan>Do>Review> philosophy in all they do in Scouting. Those who plan an activity, or a weekly meeting will also be there when it is run. Activities planned by youth are aimed at their skill level. This process helps Scouts learn and grow.

After reinforcing our Scouting Fundamentals and practising programming in the four Challenge Areas, we are ready. The program has begun.

This year we have already released our February focus, to practise recording Participates, Assists and Leads (PAL) in all four of the Challenge Areas. This recording will be a manual process using our PAL charts until mid 2020. This is when we expect our new app to be available. The app will record each member's journey and help to keep them on their personal Scouting journey.

Our resources are all available on the Scouts Victoria web page; just click on the "Our Program" menu. You can see "the big picture" chart. This describes where we are heading. Visit "Program Essentials (Milestones & Participate, Assist and Lead)" for our Challenge Area and PAL resources.

Excitingly, in July we are releasing a second program focus. This is when we release the Milestones. Milestones will be earned by recording the required Participates, Assists and Leads. The requirements vary between Milestone 1, Milestone 2 and Milestone 3 in each Section.

In 2021 we release Outdoor Adventure Skills in February and Special Interest Areas in July. We are on track to complete the implementation by December 2021.

Thank you to all those youth and adults who have taken up the challenge. Youth are now leading, and adults are providing support, mentoring and guidance where needed. This is the future of Scouting.

It's full steam ahead.

John Kerr is State Commissioner – New Program Implementation



Michael and Joan Baden-Powell with, from left, Myles, David and Alex.

Soon after, Michael distinctly remembers his late mother's return to London airport after visiting family and friends in Australia and South Africa. "She didn't say Hello or 'nice to see you' or anything but 'You've met a young lady, haven't you? From Australia?' And I said 'gulp... Yes.' She said: 'That's fine. Bring her down next weekend.' So, at my mother's insistence, I rang Joan and invited her to come down to the family house in Surrey."

Michael recalls the advice that Joan's brothers gave before her trip: "You're going to England. Don't bring back any English boyfriends." Says Michael: "She only married one."

As many young Australians did at the time, Joan travelled the UK and Europe while Michael continued working as a trainee engineer at Fairey Aviation, enjoying Rovers, and being Assistant Scout Leader with 3rd Osterley Sea Scouts.

One night after Rovers

And then came the second 'sliding doors' moment. "After Rovers in those days we would wander down to the local pub and have 'choir practice'. This night there was just an old friend Hugh Prior and myself and he said to me 'Michael, I'm thinking of going to Australia.' I replied 'That's extraordinary. Only last week I had lunch with the head immigration officer from South Africa house, an old family friend, and he said 'Why don't you come home to South Africa?' So I said, 'You make the arrangements.' And he did."

But talking to Hugh, a new idea was taking shape. "I said to Hugh: 'Australia sounds like a good call. When do we go?'" In April 1964

Michael arrived in Australia, on the last BOAC Comet airliner to land at Essendon airport.

In Melbourne he first worked as an engineering draughtsman for a firm that made heavy vehicles. "But it was right out in the sticks and I didn't fancy that, so I walked into McPherson's, the tool manufacturers in Collins Street, with some drawings I'd done."

Michael was soon working at McPherson's South Melbourne tool depot when another Scouting friend suggested he try his luck at insurance. "And so, for the next 34 years, I was an agent with the AMP, an education that I will never ever forget, because it has stood me in such good stead commercially ever since."

In August 1966, Joan and Michael married. Soon they had three sons, David, Alexander, and Myles. All went to Carey Grammar and 4th Camberwell Central Scout Group, near their home.

Hanging out with the Chief Guide

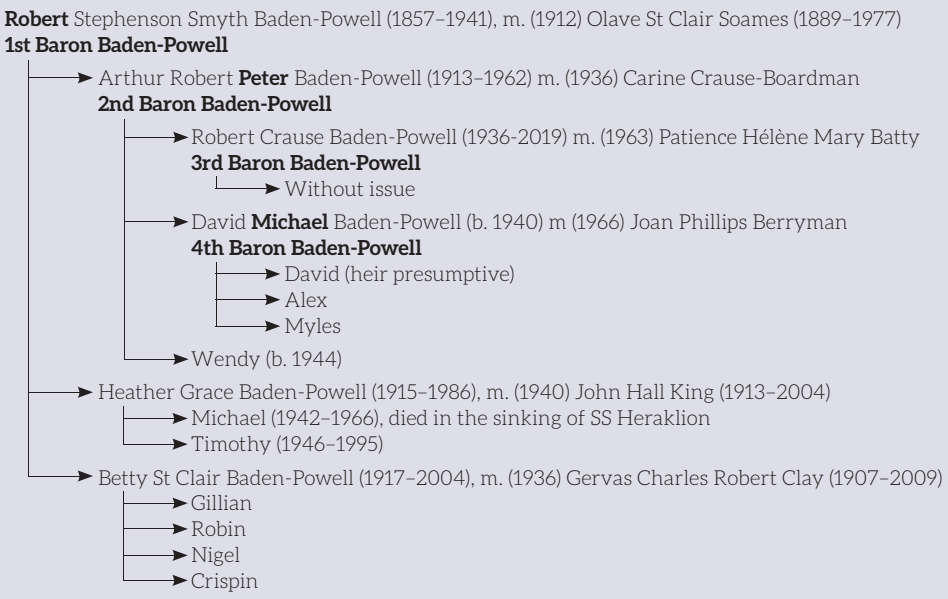
Michael's grandfather, the Founder of Scouting and first Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell, died in Kenya four weeks after Michael was born in Rhodesia. Sadly, they never met. But Michael enjoyed many special moments with his grandmother.



Thanks to King George VI, Olave Baden-Powell had a grace-and-favour apartment at Hampton Court Palace, with 71 volumes of enormous scrapbooks of newspaper cuttings, photographs, and sketches by B-P. Michael remembers how she would give her grandchildren the opportunity to look through this fantastic collection of scrapbooks while she tried to work on her correspondence.

"With the help of Eileen Wade, Grandfather's secretary for 25 years, my grandmother was an avid letter writer. She received hundreds of letters every week and insisted on replying to every one herself but she was a terrible, terrible typist. She'd be typing these letters and I'd be interrupting.

"After a couple of minutes she'd get up from her desk and lie alongside me on the loungeroom floor ... the World Chief Guide conversing with her grandson about anything and everything, specifically about a picture or pictures. They are the fondest memories I have of being with my grandmother."

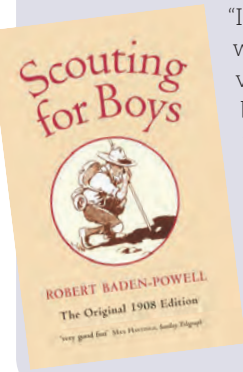


Youth leading, Adults supporting, 1964

As well as being a Rover, Michael was Assistant Scout leader of the 3rd Osterley Sea Scouts with Reg Rose, who had served in the Royal Navy during World War II.

"Reg was a great guy and we got on like a house on fire. We adopted a slightly different approach (to Scouting) in that both Reg and I, having read some of Grandfather's books, came to realise that Scouting was for young people and it should be guided by adults but led by youth. Now that's going back a few years ago. And we literally left it up to the Court of Honour (Troop Council) to run the Scout Troop and they did, and Reg and I would retire gracefully. I made it very clear to the Troop that if they wanted me to go off on a weekend camp with them, or if they wanted me to do something, they would have to invite me to join them. And they did.

"I remember one weekend in England very clearly. The boys were planning a weekend at Bentley Copse and said: 'Michael, we're having a camp this weekend. Will you come?' And I said 'Yes, I'd be delighted.'"



From left: Myles, Alex and David Baden-Powell of 4th Camberwell Central.

Meanwhile, Joan had been 'kidnapped' by the Girl Guides. After Michael spoke at a Guide event at Hawthorn Town Hall, a Guide Commissioner quietly approached her. Michael recalls: "The next minute Joan was Guide Commissioner for the area and she's been doing her Guiding thing ever since. Joan is one of the few Guide Leaders I know who have a Gilwell Wood badge." Joan is also a member of Scouts Victoria.

In 1966 Michael also resumed Scouting at the invitation of the Victorian Chief Commissioner Rolf McKellar and (later Deputy Chief Commissioner) Bill Dawson, whose clothing factory at Burwood produced Scout uniform. "Bill said: 'Appear at my factory tomorrow morning and I'll deck you out in a proper uniform.' So I did and I've been here ever since."

Michael is a Life Member of Scouts Victoria after 54 years of service, including being a member of the

organising team for three Agoonorees – camps for Scouts with special needs. "My grandfather believed that Scouting was for everybody and he meant exactly that. I just wanted to help and hopefully I did."

Michael is also a Baden-Powell Fellow, and a freeman of the City of London because he is a member of the Company of Mercers, the premier livery company of London. His family have been Mercers for about 500 years.

Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell

Now he moves to a new form of service: "The title was not really awarded to the family as a lot of people think. It was really awarded to the Scout Movement of the world and we are custodians of those two titles ... for the Scouts of the world.

"And it is my responsibility to add prestige and dignity which are attributed to those two titles. And as long as I have life left in me I will continue to go to Scouting events wherever that might be, and as long as I can still continue to afford it."



The founders family - Peter, Robert, Heather and Olave Baden-Powell.

The 2nd Baron Baden-Powell

Michael's father, Peter, became Lord Baden-Powell in 1941 on the death of his father, B-P. After returning to England in 1947, he served as the Chief Scout's Commissioner and stepped in as required for Lord Rowallan (Chief Scout of the UK and Commonwealth 1945-1959, then Governor of Tasmania 1959-63) and Lord McLean ('Chips' McLean was Chief Scout of the UK 1959-1971, then Chief Scout of the Commonwealth until 1975).

The 2nd Baron Baden-Powell was also a very active member of the House of Lords. "From time to time the Prime Minister would say 'Peter, we need you to go to Japan or Thailand and wave the flag, which he did, and did it very, very well. He was able to fall back on his Scouting background, particularly in Japan. This was just after the war and things were rather delicate. What better way of creating goodwill than through the Scout movement and my dad did this remarkably well."



Michael with a portrait of Robert Baden-Powell painted by Nora M. Gordon.

Michael was already entitled to sit in the House of Lords, but not vote: "When I was just the Honourable Michael Baden-Powell I used to be able to stand at the bar with my cousin Sir Christopher Soames or I could sit in Black Rod's box and I did on a couple of occasions. I'd just sit there quietly and listen to their Lordships talking about this and that. I hadn't a clue what they were talking about. Nevertheless, I was there."

After his brother's funeral in January 2020, Michael visited the Royal College of Arms to make sure he was doing it all correctly. "The question was asked if would I sit in the House of Lords and I said No. You have to go to the House of Lords regularly and I can't go regularly. So, I simply said No."

Scouting today

More than 110 years ago Lord Baden-Powell (the first Baron of Gilwell) started a youth organisation which aimed to bring the young people of the world together through Jamborees and other international programs. What would B-P make of today's divisions and increasing nationalism?

The first official duty of the new Lord Baden-Powell (and Lady Baden-Powell) was presenting the Queen's Scout to 1st Gisborne Venturer Isaac Stewart on February 2.



"I think he would be absolutely devastated to see what's happening. It seems now we are busily throwing bits of metal at one another for no sound reason. After seeing the awful atrocities and wastage that happened in the Boer War, he asked a simple question: for what reason, what was the purpose? And he came to the conclusion, quite rightly, that it served no useful purpose – yet he was a highly decorated soldier.

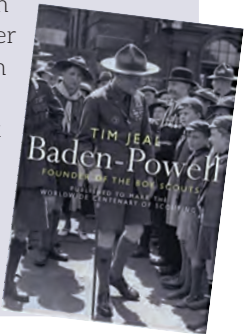
"World War I merely added to his resentment against this thing we call war. World War II broke his heart and he died in January 1941."

But there is optimism too, as Scouting's global programs bring communities together. "Behind-the-scenes, Scouting is doing, from what I've heard and seen, a magnificent job and Grandfather would be enormously proud of "his boys and girls" doing something for the good of humanity.

"The challenge to Scouting is to continue on with the belief and spirit of Scouting."

Biographies of B-P

"From my reading, Tim Jeal's book 'Baden-Powell' is probably the best. All previous books were written about B-P not long after his death or just before his death. My grandmother was still alive. They didn't want to put her offside, I suspect. And I look at Bill Hillcourt's book "Two lives of a hero" and it's good on one hand, but it's also a bit coloured because my grandmother was involved. Jeal is a professional historian and not attached to Scouting or Guiding in any way. He's sitting over there and able to look on life's aspects as it really is. And therefore I think his book is probably the best. Unbelievably, some family members disagree with me, but facts are facts!"



Scouting's most famous name

Michael enjoyed travelling to Scout camps with his late father – including a big rally at Pretoria in South Africa and the 1957 Jamboree at Sutton Coldfield – but he didn't understand what the fuss was all about.

It was similar for his wife, Joan: "It took a while to sink in to be honest. Baden-Powell ... the special name in the Scouting movement."

Says Michael: "Where it really hit home was at the World Scout Jamboree in Japan (in 2015) when all of a sudden it felt as though I had my photograph taken 20,000 times. And it was worse still in America last year. I had people coming up to me and I didn't know them from a bar of soap: 'Michael, can you please sign this scarf? Or can you please sign this baseball cap? I need a photograph of B-P's grandson.'

"These are times that it rather reminds you of who you are. But what nobody seems to understand is that it is very hard work. When Joan and I came back, particularly after America, we were exhausted, absolutely exhausted.

Despite the load, Michael sends many personal congratulatory letters each year to Scouts who have achieved significant awards such as Queen's Scouts, and many US Eagle Scouts, and attends many Scouting functions every year – from Grey Wolf presentations to international events. Michael's first official duty as Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell was to attend the Queen's Scout presentation for 1st Gisborne Venturer Isaac Stewart.