



Victorian Venturer Council

August 2020 Newsletter- Term 3

Facebook - [facebook.com/VenturersVictoria](https://www.facebook.com/VenturersVictoria)

Instagram - www.instagram.com/venturersvictoria/

(please email this newsletter to your Unit Members)

Hi there to all Units in Victoria. We are hearing about some great Unit activities and ideas during these COVID-19 times.

Please continue with your resourceful approach in the coming months as you maintain a positive involvement in the Award Scheme and build your understanding with Participate, Assist & Lead and now Milestones.

Are You OK?

We now have lockdown provisions across Victoria with Stage 4 in place in many Scouting Regions. We know that many Venturers are struggling with schooling back online, SAC's and uncertainty with end of year exams. As well, many of our leaders have had employment reduced or terminated. Across Scouting, this is a time when we ask all of you to look out for the wellbeing of your fellow Venturers and Leaders and reach to others to ask them if they are OK, especially members who you haven't seen for a few weeks.

Remember there are a number of professional support services who can assist:

- Lifeline (<https://coronavirus.beyondblue.org.au/> 1800 512 348)
- Black Dog Institute (<https://www.blackdoginstitute.org.au/>)
- Kids Helpline (1800 55 1800)

COVID-19 Provisions for Venturer Award Schemes - extended to 30 November 2020

The Victorian Venturer Council has reviewed and revised provisions in Award Scheme activities for Venturers aiming to complete their Queen's Scout Award in 2020 which are effective immediately. The latest information on how Venturers can continue in the Award Scheme towards completing Queen's Scout. **Download Here**

Currently many Venturer events have been cancelled due to the COVID-19 situation: BARCOM, Amazing Race, Armstrong 500, Iglute, Snow Venture, etc. These affect VA/QS Expedition and VA/QS Outdoor activities and to a lesser extent VA/QS Lifestyles. Before you panic, email us (**see below**) so as we can offer you some informed advice.

Our Virtual Venturers 2020 **website** continues to offer details on our various assistance for current News, ideas for activities, virtual programs and Award Scheme support.

We still have the Venturer Questionnaire open for Venturers (17+/Year 11 &12) who are having difficulty with finalising courses or other aspects of their Award Scheme towards Queen's Scout in 2020. Complete this **online form** and we will get in touch with you to provide support and advice. Alternatively, you can email us at **support@vicventurers.com.au**

Virtual Expedition

We have 30 Venturers participating in this program and we are still offering Venturers aged 17+ in Year 12 and those in Year 11 who are only a couple of badges away from completing their Queen's Scout the option to take part. You will use prior hiking experience evidence and compile a comprehensive hike plan as per the Venturer Record Book requirements with an VVC appointed Examiner.

Complete our Venturer Award Scheme Progress Questionnaire **here**.

Queen's Scout Nomination Closing Date

The closing date for QS Nomination forms to be received at the Victorian Scout Centre for Venturers to be included in the 2021 Government House presentations is **30th November 2020**.

Queen's Scout Portfolio's and Record Books

Several Venturers have scanned their Portfolio of Evidence, Record Books and Nomination Forms. This allows easy processing from the District/Zone Council presentation phase for it to be checked and sent directly to the District Commissioner to speed up the transmission. With the current lockdown, sending folders between key people will be problematic and we don't want Venturers to miss the close off deadline.

Changes to the Victorian Venturer Council

Several members of the adult Team have finished their term or resigned. We thank Tammy Napier (Gippsland) and Ian Collins (Northern) for their time on the Council. In the interim, Gary Steinhardt (Assistant State Commissioner – Venturers) will be the contact for support in Northern and Gippsland Regions. E: asc.venturers@vicventurers.com.au

A big welcome to our new Youth Council members for 2020/2021:

- Georgie Marten - 5th Mildura
- Sophie Redman - 1st Eltham North
- Kelly Nickson - 1st Churchill
- Charlie O'Neill - 1st Edithvale
- Pete Pearce - 2nd/6th Hawthorn
- Caitlyn King - 3rd Wodonga
- Marko Movre - 1st Caroline Springs
- Elizabeth Solly - 1st Bennettswood

We look forward to their input towards building and sustaining Venturers in Victoria.

We also welcome our new Venturer Scout Commissioners-Region:

- Dwayne Bicknell (Lerderderg)
- Cameron Pearce (Geelong)

Peter Datson is moving to support Plenty Valley Region.

Livestream #VVQ&A– 12 July

We hope you saw our Livestream on Sunday 12th July where we had Victoria's Chief Scout, Shane Jacobson, give us some reflections on his journey in Scouting and the great times he had as a Venturer. There was also lots of questions regarding the rollout of Milestones and there is lots more information to follow in the coming months. If you missed it, check it out on the Scouts Victoria [Youtube channel](#)

Venturer Courses

Several online Unit Management Courses have been conducted as well as three Leadership Courses. More courses are in the pipeline for October To express interest in an upcoming course email support@vicventurers.com.au - please provide your name, Group/Unit, personal email address, personal mobile number, confirm your home postal address and the name of your Venturer Leader. We hope to return to face-to-face delivery perhaps in November/December, so stay tuned on for details on the VVC website, Facebook and in Be informed (Scouts e-news).

We have also had Visions and Values (VA Ideals), ENTMOOT (VA Environment) and Hoadley Hide@ Home in July (VA Initiative) delivered online in June/July. Thanks to the leaders who have developed and conducted these courses.

Venturer Environment Course & Regent Honey Eater

(online and interactive)

11-13th September & 19th September

Cost: \$10.00 covering badges & Certificates.

Bookings: [Trybooking.com/BKPQS](https://trybooking.com/BKPQS)



Staying on in Venturers after 18th Birthday

Reports are coming to VVC that some units may not be complying with Scouts Victoria policy on Child Safe Scouting regarding Venturers who turn 18 but are remaining in Venturers until the end of their Year 12 school year.

Prior to their 18th Birthday, these Venturers **MUST** have a Victorian Working with Children Check and complete the two compulsory eLearning modules for all adult members of Scouting: *Child Safe Scouting* (BCORE CHILD) and *WHS for Scouting* (BCORE WHS).

Without these recorded on the Extranet, this places them and Leaders at risk for not conforming with State and Federal Legislation and is contrary to Scouts Victoria requirements. It also makes Venturers ineligible to receive an Award, as this will now be checked during processing a Queen's Scout Award. Your Group Leader must also be aware of any 18+ Venturers in your unit.

If Venturers or Venturer Leaders need assistance with this process, discuss with your Group Leader, or contact membershipsupport@scoutsvictoria.com.au

OzVenture 2021 - cancelled

Due to the uncertainty of developments with the COVID-19 pandemic, the NSW Venture Organising Committee (VOC) have recommended that the event be withdrawn and it will no longer be staged. This is enormously disappointing to the 400 Victorian Venturers and Leaders who have applied and were excited about the lifechanging event of attending the Venture and the fabulous Expeditions which were on offer. Our thanks to Rohan Lambert and his Victorian Contingent Team who have been working hard for Victorian Venturers, who made up half of the Venture participants. The Venture Organising Committee will soon outline the process for full refunds for all participants in the coming weeks.

OzV Victorian Event?

Victorian Venturers is exploring if a scaled down activity in Victoria can be offered.

We will update further details on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/OZV2021VicCon>

OzVenture 2021 Victorian Contingent Shirts

The striking Victorian Contingent Shirts are now on sale to non-contingent members with sales open on 12 August

at <http://ozv2021victoria.com/ShirtSales> Shirts are \$35 and 'Cancelled Transfer' \$6. All prices include postage and handling.





Camping, Hiking & Outdoors Restrictions

After consultation with the Scout Victoria COVID-19 Emergency Team we can advise that:

- Camping or hiking not permitted for members in Stage 4 lockdown areas
- VA or QS Outdoor will allow Cycling as an approved activity, providing Venturers comply with the Stage 3 or Stage Stage 4 requirements (single cyclist, wearing a mask, 1 hour duration only for exercise, within 5 km of your home). Use the State Cycling Teams concept of 'Cycling Every Street in your 'Hood' - keep a log of your journeys, practice some navigation, set some challenges and include some selfies of your travel. [More details here](#) - **STAY SAFE**.
- Orienteering is not approved during the current restrictions period.
- Geocaching is not approved during the current restrictions period.
- You are also reminded that you must register your activity on [scOUT & ABOUT](#).

VicVenturers Unit Mail - automatically forwarding incoming emails

As part of every Unit being given a Microsoft Teams account, each unit also has a unitname@vicventurers.com.au email address. VVC will use these email addresses to send information to units, so it's important to make sure emails are being checked or redirected. To redirect these emails, go to mail.office365.com and sign in using your Unit's vicventurers.com.au address and password (eg. 1st-Unit@vicventurers.com.au)

1. Click the Gear symbol  in the top right to open your settings. Type "rules" in the search and click "Inbox rules".
2. Click  Add new rule to create a new rule.
3. Give your new rule a name and select "Add a condition". Scroll to the bottom and choose "Apply to all messages"
4. Go to "Add an action", choose either "Forward to" or "Redirect to", then type the email address you want messages forwarded to into the text box. If you wish to forward to multiple addresses, you can type them all into the text box.
5. Click on the "Save" button at the bottom to save your rule.

Now wait for emails to be forwarded or redirected to where you chose.

The New Venturer Record Book

Now available via Scout Shop online (\$15) this is **must have** resource for Leaders and Units.

<https://scoutshop.com.au/>

It provides a complete overview of Our Program, building the same concepts from Joeys to Rovers. Start to share the Program Essentials in your Unit The online app (*Terrain*) will eventually replace the hard copy Record Book Outdoor Adventure Skills (OAS) and Special Interest Areas (SIA) information will follow in 2021. More information in our next Newsletter.



Our Program

During the first six months of 2020, we hope that you have commenced recording individual participation in the 4 Challenge Areas with all Unit activities in **Participate, Assist and Lead**. July onwards sees the next phase in the delivery of Our Program in Victoria – **Milestones**.



COMMUNITY



OUTDOORS



PERSONAL GROWTH



CREATIVE

MILESTONE 1



- **24 Participates**
(6 from each Challenge Area)
- **2 Assists** (from 2 Challenge Areas)
- **1 Lead**

One Year in Venturers
(Venturing Skills as at present)

MILESTONE 2



- **20 Participates**
(5 from each Challenge Area)
- **3 Assists** (from at least 2 Challenge Areas)
- **1 Lead**

2 Years in Venturers
(Venturer Award as at present)

MILESTONE 3



- **16 Participates**
(4 from each Challenge Area)
- **4 Assists** (from at least 2 Challenge Areas)
- **4 Leads**

3 Years in Venturers
leading to Peak Award
(Queens's Scout Award)

Check out the latest about Our Program at <https://scoutsvictoria.com.au/age-sections-adults/member-resources/our-program/>

Look out for Our Program Champions in your District/Region who are presently being trained in the understanding of the how Milestones form the 'building blocks' of the Program.

We will say goodbye to Award Scheme/Badges terminology and welcome **Achievement Pathways** into our Scouting vocabulary.

We eagerly await the new mobile app – **Terrain** to be released in late September–October to simplify the recording of activities and build the understanding of **One Program – One Journey**.

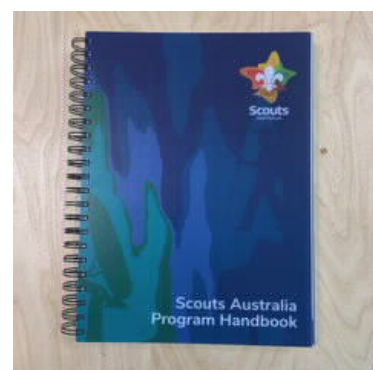
Program Handbook

This is the definitive publication for the new Scouts Australia Youth Program.

268 full colour pages, with a sturdy, flexible polypropylene cover and spiral bound so you can fully invert the book or fold it out flat.

This publication explains all aspects of the Australian Scout Program, including:

- The history of Scouting, our relation to Scouts globally and the role of Scouting today



- Key messages about the Youth Program and our focus on 'youth led, adult supported'
- The Scouting Method, SPICES & Plan-Do-Review
- Program Planning
- International Scouting
- Environment
- Diversity & Inclusion
- Ceremonies (this content replaces the old Ceremonies book which has become outdated)
- Finally, this book covers the details behind the New Youth Program and explains the achievement pathways for each Youth Section. It replaces all other Sectional Leader Program Handbooks.

<https://scoutshop.com.au/>

We are immensely proud of our almost 2500 Venturers in Victoria who continue to engage and thrive during these challenging times. Well done to you all.

Duncan McColl
State Commissioner - Venturers

